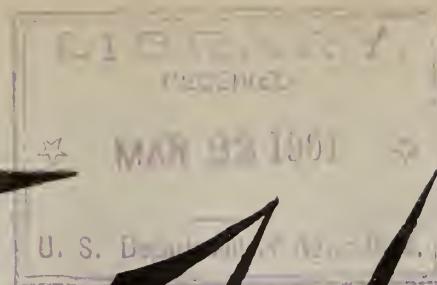


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A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 4.

BOSTON, MASS., MARCH 15, 1901.

NO. 9.

Your Subscription Ended

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EDITORIAL HINTS.

Be neat.
Be calm.
Time flies.
Be regular.
Have order.
Spring next.
March winds.
Be up-to-date.
Kindness wins.
Be considerate.
Be level-headed.
Don't be a clam.
No time to sleep.
Now for business.
Exit Ground Hog.
Aim to get higher.
This is *your* paper.
Be a business man.
"Early birds," etc.
Facts beat theories.
Get a move on you.
Hatching time is on.
Now for broody hens.
Americans for utility.
New blood gives vigor.
Encourage the worker.
Drones are a detriment.
Incubators are in order.
Buff breeds are popular.
System leads to success.
"Lamb and lion" month.
Beauty is "feather deep."
Get up into the front seat.
Inbreeding destroys utility.
Editors should be practical.
Introduce us to your friends.
Trap nests give proper credit.

Experimental Farm Notes.

The Hens Make a Better Start in 1901 Contest than They did a Year Ago—A Struggle Between the White Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds and White Wonders for Leadership—General Notes and Comments.

January, 1900 record beat the same month this year only in one instance—one hen, a Light Brahma, reached the record of 22 eggs, while this year it is but 19. But all the other records are surpassed in 1901. This year five hens reach 19 eggs each, and then they gradually narrow down to 5 as the "low water mark." As a starter, the *hens* of 1901 beat their *pullet* record of the same month in 1900. It is our candid opinion that these same hens will put their first year's record in the shade.

During the month of January the following number of hens were laying:

Pen No. 0	.....	3
1	.....	3
2	.....	6
3	.....	4
4	.....	11
5	.....	12
6	.....	13
7	.....	10
8	.....	7
9	.....	6
Miscellaneous	.....	4
	Total,	79

A gain of 20 layers over last month, and a gain of 14 over January, 1900.

The above table represents the following number of layers of each breed:

Wyandottes	.....	36
Brahmas	.....	16
Rhode Island Reds	.....	10
Barred Plymouth Rocks	.....	7
White Plymouth Rocks	.....	6

During the month the following number of eggs were laid:

R. I. Reds, 10 head,	135 eggs; average	13.5
Wyandottes, 36 head,	357 eggs; average	9.33
W. P. Rocks, 6 head,	48 eggs; average	8
Brahmas, 16 head,	107 eggs; average	6.11
B. P. Rocks, 7 head,	37 eggs; average	5.2

The highest number of eggs we gathered in one day, during the month of January, was 35; the lowest number 11.

The highest number of Brahma eggs received in one day was 8; the lowest number 1.

The highest number of Wyandotte eggs received in one day was 15; the lowest number 6.

The highest number of White Plymouth Rock eggs received in one day was 4; the lowest number 0.

The highest number of Rhode Island Red eggs received in one day was 7; the lowest number 1.

The highest number of Barred Plymouth Rock eggs received in one day was 5; the lowest number 0.

The standing of individual layers is as follows (from January 1 to February 1):

No. 196, White Wyandotte	.....	19 eggs
4,	"	19
95, Rhode Island Red	.....	19
84,	"	19
163, White Wonder (Merrill)	.....	19
91, Rhode Island Red	.....	18
86,	"	18
18, White Wyandotte	.....	17
41,	"	17
43,	"	17
192,	"	17
17,	"	17
94, Rhode Island Red	.....	17
66, White Plymouth Rock	.....	17
68, Brahma (Cost)	.....	16
67,	"	16
14, White Wyandotte	.....	16
82, Rhode Island Red	.....	16
93,	"	16
117, White Wonder (Merrill)	.....	15
13, White Wyandotte	.....	14
15,	"	14
43, Brahma (Felch)	.....	13
16, White Wyandotte	.....	13
98,	"	13
Silver Wyandotte	.....	13
46, White Plymouth Rock	.....	13
171, White Wyandotte	.....	12
83,	"	11
3,	"	11
11,	"	11
112, Barred Plymouth Rock	.....	11
134, White Wyandotte	.....	10
34,	"	10
22,	"	10
47, Brahma (Cost)	.....	9
15,	" (Felch)	9
2, White Wyandotte	.....	9
109,	"	8
35,	"	7
103, Barred Ply. Rock (Watmore)	.....	7
100,	"	7
34, Brahma (Felch)	.....	6
81,	" (Cost)	6
186, White Wyandotte	.....	6
28,	"	6
122, Rhode Island Red	.....	6
88,	"	6
73, White Plymouth Rock	.....	6
61,	"	5
50, Brahma (Cost)	.....	5
176, White Wyandotte	.....	5
190,	"	5
38,	"	5

The highest individual egg record for the month belongs to White Wyandotte hens Nos. 196 and 4; Rhode Island Red hens Nos. 95 and 84; and White Wonder hen No. 163, each having laid 19 eggs.

The total number of eggs laid on the farm during January was 732, being a gain of 142 over the amount laid last month. Also a gain of 144 over the corresponding month of 1900.

During January the highest price we received for eggs was 25 cents a dozen; lowest, 23 cents; average, 24 cents.

Our Egg Club.

Grand Laying Records by Hens Owned by Readers of A FEW HENS—Methods of Feeding and Care—Reports Solicited.

Jay Cooke Howard, Duluth, Minn., writes: "I do not know as it will particularly interest you, but I promised to keep you informed as to the laying of my hens. I have three pens. 'Pen No. 1 contains the four Wyandotte hens and cock I purchased from you, and two Barred Plymouth Rock pullets I hatched last June.

"Pen No. 2 contains the four Light Brahma hens and cock I purchased from you.

"Pen No. 3, scratching shed plan, contains twenty 3-year old Leghorn hens and seven Leghorn pullets.

"During January Pen No. 1 laid 41 eggs; No. 2, 13 eggs, and No. 3, 6 eggs.

"We use trap nests, but have not begun to keep individual scores. The Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks take kindly to the trap nest idea. The Brahmias refuse to lay in the trap nest and the Leghorns prefer the trap nests to others that are in their coop; but are wild when let out.

"One of the Barred Rock pullets has laid by far the most eggs of any single hen.

"About February 1st one of the Brahmias became broody and we set her on a mixed setting of eggs from the Brahmias, Wyandottes and Rocks. Only gave her 11 eggs. Tested yesterday (February 17) and found five fertile.

"I will have a much better report to make at the end of February."

J. A. Warren, manager of the O. B. Poultry Yards, So. Dennis, Mass., writes: "As reports are solicited of individual or pen records of eggs laid, I am offering our record for January, contrasting Pen No. 1, White Wyandottes (mated cockerel to 15 yearling hens) with Pen No. 3, also White Wyandottes (mated cock with 15 pullets), thinking the contrast might be interesting to some news or fact searchers.

"We are using the Maine Experiment Station trap nest box, with a few alterations of our own. They work as good, if not better, than most of the trap nests examined previously.

PEN NO. 1.—YEARLING HENS.

Hen No. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 16

Eggs Laid, 14 0 20 13 12 3 0 16 1

6 0 17 0 5 22

Laid Outside, 1. Total, 130.

PEN NO. 3.—PULLETS.

Hen No. 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95

96 97 98 99 100

Eggs Laid, 10 17 8 0 0 17 0 0 6 16 9 5

2 1 3

Laid Outside, 4. Total, 98.

Chris. R. Hobson, Westfield, N. J., writes: "A year and a half ago I started to keep a few hens and kept them in my own way for a few months, when a copy of your paper reached me. Since then I have followed many little bits of advice, and am now taking the paper for the second year, sending in with my own renewal two new subscribers.

"My time at home is limited to before 7 o'clock a. m., and after 6 p. m., but still what time I am at home my feathered friends have the benefit of and show their appreciation by more than paying for their board.

"My January record was, first week, 18 eggs; second week, 35 eggs; third week, 46 eggs; fourth week, 50 eggs; last five days to February 1st, 69 eggs.

"How's that for a flock of 55 pullets and only 40 of them laying?"

W. T. Barker, Woodbury, N. J., writes: "My ten White Wyandotte pullets I wrote you about last month have laid 267 eggs since November 21. Their record is 16 in November, 97 in December, and 154 in January.

"I know this has been exceeded by lots of pens which have had the advantages of commodious buildings. My house is four feet square and the laying part about three feet square. So you see all their labor has to be done in my small yard. The house was built of boxes, and the entire cost was 75 cts. I keep it very clean and it is warm.

"I would have had more eggs this month, (January) had it not been for three pullets becoming broody for the past ten days. I get many valuable suggestions and helps from your paper."

C. E. Brice, Newport, R. I., writes: "I keep about thirty hens and pullets, about half of each, mostly Rhode Island Reds.

"From January 13 to February 2, three weeks, I got 55 eggs the first week; 64 the second week, and 71 the last week.

"I am doing a great deal better than my neighbors. I know two who have 75 and 100 respectively and only get eight and twelve eggs per day. My coop is only about 12 x 30 feet."

F. A. Hanaford, So. Lancaster, Mass., writes: "During January twelve of the pullets at Alder Brook Farm laid 20 eggs or over.

"White Wyandottes Nos. 185, 189 and 197 laid 20 eggs each; Nos. 182, 195 and 246 laid 21 eggs each; Nos. 199 and 206 laid 22 eggs each; Nos. 237 and 180 laid 23 eggs each. I am surprised at No. 180, as she is a very large bird and lays an extra large brown egg that might be taken for a double header. It is generally supposed that the record breakers are the medium sized birds.

"Buff Wyandottes No. 275 laid 21 eggs, and No. 219 laid 22 eggs. The Buff Wyandottes are all getting broody very early in the season. We like this very much, as we want all the early sitters we can get. Last season our Buffs that had set once or twice laid first-rate way along to Thanksgiving, when eggs were 40 cents.

"No doubt scratching shed houses are all right, 365 days in the year, in Southern New Jersey, but in many situations in New England there are a great many Winter days when even with the curtains down they are too cold for hen comfort. Our houses have two windows that slide easily to one side, in each section. We can open one of them an inch or a foot, or both of them wide, just according to the wind and weather. When they are wide open that section is practically a scratching shed, as the ground floor is well littered and the whole grain buried in it. On a bleak, snowy day the windows are kept closed and the hens are hustling and scratching, regardless of outside conditions.

"This house we consider has all the advantages of a scratching shed and none of its drawbacks."

Frank C. Burdick, Rockville, R. I., writes: "As you solicit reports for your Egg Club, I wish to tell you of one pen of eight Buff Wyandottes that have been doing some remarkable laying this Winter. On a number of days they gave me seven and one day eight eggs. On other days four, five and six. My whole flock has laid very well, but this pen wins 1st premium."

Allen Bagnell, North Plymouth, Mass., writes: "I am very much interested in A FEW HENS' Egg Club and would like to add my experience to the others. I keep Klondikes mostly, and as their laying has never been reported perhaps it will be interesting to members of the club.

"A pen of eight hens laid during Dec., 1900, 138 eggs, an average of 17 1-4, and in Jan., 1901, they laid 142, averaging 17 3-4. Five of the hens laid 18 eggs and over each month, the best layer, No. 34, laying 25 in December and 23 in January. The individual laying was as follows: For Dec., No. 5, 21 eggs; No. 15 (commenced to lay Dec. 19) 10; No. 22 (commenced to lay Dec. 18) 8; No. 27, 16 up to the 21st, when she wanted to set, commenced laying again Jan. 8th; No. 29, 21; No. 31, 18; No. 32, 19; No. 34, 25 (two on the 17th). For Jan., No. 5, 13 (this hen laid steadily through Nov. and Dec., and until Jan. 6th, when she stopped and did not lay again until Jan. 22nd); No. 15, 21; No. 22, 18; No. 27, 15; No. 29, 15; No. 31, 18; No. 32, 19; No. 34, 23.

"I have never seen any report of the Klondikes and am surprised that they are not better known, they certainly ought to be and will be soon if they all lay as mine have. If it will not take too much space I would like to say regarding them that, although a small breed (my hens weighing from 4 1-2 to 5 lbs. and cockerels from 5 1-2

to 6), they have proved to be a very nice table fowl, and their inability to fly over a three-foot fence is certainly a point in their favor. They are a cold weather hen, mine being out in the yard on the coldest days when my Wyandottes will be huddled up in the house.

"They do not cost as much to keep as the Wyandottes and with me have been a better paying breed. I feed mornings, wheat and oats, with sometimes a little cracked corn; noon a mash of leavings from the table mixed with shorts and provender, and a little B. B. B. or clover meal every other day; night wheat and cracked corn, with an occasional feed of whole corn. I use trap nests and could not get along without them, they are very interesting and instructive."

Our Brevity Symposium.

Readers of *A FEW HENS* are Invited to Answer Queries that Monthly Appear in these Columns, as Well as Ask Questions to be Answered.

NO. 42.

What are the best and most reliable methods to raise a brood of turkeys?

No answers were received to this query.

NO. 43.

As the Standard does not give weight for Brown Leghorns, will breeders please state what is considered a good weight for fowls of that variety?

Any weight that will not cripple egg production.—Wm. C. King, Hopkinton, Mass.

About four to five pounds.—Matt G. Robson, Port Leyden, N. Y.

My Single Comb White Leghorn females weigh four to five pounds; males, five to six pounds, and are typical specimens of the breed. By breeding from large birds we get stock more hardy and with a larger capacity for egg production. Should consider these weights about right for the Brown Leghorns also.—Harry C. Nunan, Cape Porpoise, Me.

When breeding Single Comb Brown Leghorns I tried to have the hens weigh from four to five pounds; cocks a pound and a half heavier.—Robert Atkins, Esopus-on-Hudson, N. Y.

NO. 44.

How large a closed house would you build to house a dozen White Wyandotte fowls, and what would be the average cost of same?

12 x 15 feet. If a man could put it up himself, it would cost about \$14 or \$15.—Matt G. Robson.

Ten feet long, eight feet wide, seven feet high at front, four feet high at back; 2 x 4 studs, inch hemlock boards, cover all with tar paper and extra coat of tar. Cost should not exceed \$10, plus labor, Massachusetts prices.—Wm. C. King.

A building eight feet square, with a scratching shed 4 x 8, open or closed front, will amply accommodate 12 to 15 White Wyandotte fowls the year around. Should cost anywhere from \$3 to \$15, according to climate requirements and amount of old material used.—Ben Leigh Smith, Aurora, Ills.

A house about 10 x 10 feet would answer nicely for a dozen White Wyandottes, and would cost here (Maine) covered with Neponset Red Rope, about \$15.—Harry C. Nunan.

A closed house 10 x 10 feet, seven feet high in front, four feet in back, will comfortably house 12 White Wyandottes and would cost, exclusive of labor, about \$15.—Frank C. Burdick, Rockville, R. I.

Should have a house 10 x 10 feet and would figure cost at about \$2 per running foot, not including labor.—Emory E. Banks, Crittenden, N. Y.

9 x 12 feet. It could be built here for \$1 a running foot for material, except the bill of labor.—Charles A. French, Sandy Point, Me.

10 x 10 feet. Price must depend altogether upon location and style of coop desired. I should build to cost about \$2 per head; labor not included. I generally do my own building.—Robt. Atkins.

Certainly not less than 10 x 12 feet, floor space; seven feet high in front, six feet in back; covered with tar felt or rubberoid roofing. Cost will be ruled by price of material and labor, which varies greatly according to locality and will run between \$15 and \$25.—D. T. H., Toronto, Canada.

One section of our scratching sled house, designed to accommodate from 15 to 18 fowls, would make an excellent house for 12 White Wyandottes. The entire house is 56 feet long, divided into four sections, each section having a roosting pen 6 x 8 feet, and a scratching shed 8 x 8 feet. The entire cost of this house, including four nice runs 120 feet deep, was a little less than \$100. The lumber was all purchased and the entire work of construction done by a hired man. The house is covered with Neponset Red Rope Roofing, and painted. We think one

section with run could be built for from \$20 to \$30. If one was to keep but 12 fowls and they could have the run of a barn yard or sled, a much smaller and less expensive house could be used with good success.—J. W. Bronley & Son, Southbridge, Mass.

NO. 45.

Have you ever bred Indian Runner ducks, and with what success?

No answers received to the above inquiry.

W. P. ROCK pullets and cockerels, \$2 to \$3 each. Eggs \$1.25 for 13. F. W. Thorne, Livingstonville, N. Y.

S. C. B. MINORCAS. Eggs \$2.00 per 15 or \$5.00 per 45. J. M. REB STOCK, Newton, Kansas.

GOLDEN Buff Leghorns. Standard bred. Four choice breeding yards. Sturdy stock. Eggs \$1 per 13. Write wants. Thos. Keeler, Waverly, N. Y.

S. C. WHITE and BROWN Leghorns. Eggs from large, healthy and continuous layers \$1 per sitting. **FRED. S. JOURDAN**, Branford, Conn.

WHITE WYANDOTTE

Pullets, early hatched, Winter layers, \$1 each. Eggs 75c. per 13. J. W. Bronley & Son, Southbridge, Mass.

WE are booking orders for eggs from Wyckoff's great laying strain of White Leghorns, 40 for \$2.00. Satisfactory hatch guaranteed.

ELM GROVE YARDS, Ausable Forks, N. Y.

UTILITY. 214 eggs averaged by my strain \$1.25 per 15. **W. H. FREEMAN**, Hallowell, Maine.

WHITE WYANDOTTES exclusively. Eggs from first-class stock \$1.00 per 15. Satisfaction guaranteed. We are not selling on a past reputation, but are laying a foundation for future business. **PISCATAQUOG VALLEY POULTRY YARDS**, Box 27, Goffstown, N. H.

OUR RECORD ON BARRED ROCKS

This year. 22 Firsts, 17 Specials, 17 Second Premiums. Eggs from extra choice mating \$3 per 15. Choice mating \$2.00 per 15. Mating for utility \$1.00 per 15. **BAY STATE POULTRY YARDS**, Worcester, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTES

Improve your flock by getting one of our vigorous, free range cockerels at \$2 each. They are all right. Details for the asking. **C. & A. W. WADSWORTH**, Valley View Poultry Yards, Oscawana, N. Y.

ELM POULTRY YARDS,

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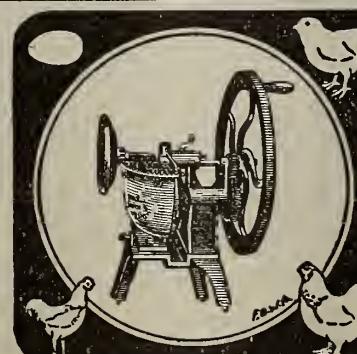
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NO. 46.

At what age would you market White Wyandottes as roasters, also at what time of year to bring the most profit?

Four to five months. Time of year depends upon locality for best season to market. I get best returns in June and July.—Wm. C. King.

At the age when the market man is convinced that they are big enough for roasters. The earlier the better after May 1 here in Maine.—C. A. French. The highest prices here in Massachusetts are paid in June, July and August. Chicks hatched from January 15 to April 15 develop into good young roasters for this market and bring the most profit.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Any time after ten or twelve weeks of age, depending on time of year. Think September is best month to market roasters.—Emory E. Banks.

Try to market White Wyandottes as roasters in July and August, when between four and five months old. Prices average about 30 cents per pound to Maine Summer boarders and as the chicks are raised on free range, a good profit is sure.—H. C. Nunan.

NO. 47.

What results have you noticed in the use of egg foods, condition powders, etc., as far as increasing the egg yield is concerned?

Condition powders will force hens to lay, sure enough, but beware of them if you wish to have a healthy rugged flock.—Emory E. Banks.

Last Winter and this we have used \$9 worth of a well known egg producer. The first three boxes used at intervals were followed by marked increase in the egg yield, but in the last trial the egg yield fell off 20 per cent. But as there were sudden and severe changes in temperature, the egg crop might have failed altogether but for the use of the egg producer.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

I think rightly used they are beneficial.—Chas. A. French.

None. Never returned to me the price paid.—Wm. C. King.

When I could not get meat, bone and vegetables, have used condition powder instead. It always helped the egg yield.—Matt G. Robson.

But very little increase with young, healthy hens that are fed right to lay. But with hens that are debilitated from overfeeding, I find Sheridan's Condition Powder very good.—D. T. H. Have increased the egg yield by the use of Sheridan's Condition Powder. Their moderate use seems beneficial to health.—Robert Atkins.

My experience with egg foods, condition powders, etc., is that they do not increase the egg yield at all. Good food and exercise are much better.—Frank C. Burdick.

If you class animal meal and such under "egg foods," would say I can always see a marked increase of eggs when feeding. But, although I have fed a considerable quantity of condition powders, could not see any benefits derived.—Harry C. Nunan.

I never use egg foods to increase the yield. It affects the fowl the same as stimulants do the human family. It admits of increased work for the time

being, but it is all done on nerve, and in the long run the stimulated hen is all worn out when she would otherwise be in her prime. As a mild stimulant and condition powder I use red pepper at weekly or longer intervals. To get fowls through the molt in good condition and ready for early shows I have used Pratt's Food with pleasing results.—Ben Leigh Smith.

Regarding condition powders we would say that their constant use the year through is a serious mistake, as the system gets used to them and the effect is lost. But for pullets on the verge of starting, a good reliable condition powder strengthens the organs so that the pullets can more readily start in egg production; it has the same beneficial effect on hens in their second year; it, likewise, is invaluable in toning the system during molting season. A good condition powder sharpens the appetite and strengthens the egg organs, and a good egg yield is the result. Briefly, condition powders fed daily throughout the year cannot give good results; given at the proper time they are invaluable.—EDITOR).



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GREEN CUT BONE

fresh from the table or butcher. Makes chicks grow fast, makes strong fowls, good hens. Increases egg production 100 per cent.

Stearns Bone Cutter is self-regulating, self-feeding. Meat or gristle will not clog it.

No other cuts so fine, so easy, so fast.

Fine for safety in feeding, easy for comfort, fast for economy, and everything is said.

It won highest and only award at the World's Fair, Chicago, highest award at the National Export Exposition, Philadelphia, and a hundred first prizes at State and local fairs.

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BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

My pedigree strains are unequalled for large, brown eggs and fine poultry. They have the vigor, shape, size and color. The Fancier's pride and the egg man's joy. Eggs \$1.00 per lb.

CHARLES H. CANNEY, Dover, N. H.

NO. 48.

What method of marking fresh eggs can you suggest which will be equally satisfactory to producer and consumer, guaranteeing the rights of both?

Your private mark or full address with date on which eggs were laid could be put on egg. Or, a small piece of tissue paper, with date, etc., printed with a rubber stamp and placed in dozen boxes, makes an attractive and better way to sell strictly fresh eggs the year round.—D. T. H.

I never sell an egg over three days old, and can sell mine all at home. But I believe in expansion, and have thought of putting eggs up in three dozen cardboard boxes and sealing and labelling them with date laid, etc., crating nine or twelve boxes in a bundle and shipping three times a week either to some

TRY THE PRACTICAL HEN SEPARATOR
Separates the layers from the non-layers. Equal to the best. Plans 75c. E. A. Joslyn, Hammonton, N.J.

MASSASOIT
POULTRY FARM
—EAST PROV. R.I.—
UTILITY BRED

Barred P. Rocks

Eggs \$1.00 per 13; \$5.00 per 100.
NO STOCK UNTIL FALL.

At Philadelphia on

BARRED ROCKS

I won 2nd cockerel, 2nd special, and special for best colored cockerel. These winnings are in my yards. Bradley Bros. & Hawkins stock. Eggs same as I set \$1.00 for 13.

C. C. SHORB, McDaniel, Md.

200 EGGS
A YEAR
PER HEN

Is the name of the best book on egg production and profits in poultry yet written. Concise, practical, down to date. Recommended by Hunter, Boyer, Curtis, and others. By following methods outlined in the book

the author obtained from 14 White Wyandottes 2,999 eggs in one year, an average of over 214 eggs apiece. Tells how to pick out the layers; the conditions of egg production; what to feed and how much for eggs; how to start pullets to laying in the fall; how to make a trap nest box for individual records; what to put in the mash for fertile eggs; how to keep chicks from dying in the shell; gives the law of sex—males or females at will; tells how to make a natural hen incubator; how and where to market the product; how to kill and dress fowls; how to lay down eggs so that they will keep a year; the best mating for vigor; how to rear the chicks; where the profits are made, and many other important and interesting things. Price of book 50 cts. Circular free.

EDGAR WARREN, Wolfboro, N. H.

EVERY BOY HIS OWN TOY MAKER.

Tells how to make all kinds Toys, Steam Engines, Photo Cameras, Windmills, Microscopes, Electric Telegraphs, Telephones, Magic Lanterns, Eolian Harps, Boats, from a rowboat to a schooner; also Kites, Balloons, Masks, Wagons, Toy Houses, Bow and Arrow, Pop Guns, Slings, Stilts, Fishing Tackle, Rabbit and Bird Traps, and many others. All is made so plain that a boy can easily make them. 200 handsome illus. This great book by mail 10c, 3 for 25c. C. E. DEPUY, Pub, Syracuse, N.Y.

Barred P. Rocks,
S. C. Black Minorcas.

Large 8 to 10 lb. Rock hens, properly mated. Large Minorcas, correct in shape and color. Grown on 100 acres free range. Both are great layers and money makers. Why not get the best? Eggs, 15, \$1; 30, \$1.75; 60, \$3; 100, \$4. OTTER CREEK POULTRY FARM, Watertown, N. Y.

commission house or family grocer, and in that way build up a city trade.—Matt G. Robson.

It is my opinion that sealed packages will alone bring about the results sought.—Robert Atkins.

Markets about here (Massachusetts) do not wish marks of any kind upon eggs. Private customers do not object, but I have been unable to see any advantage derived from this source, by marking or stamping my product.—Wm. C. King.

For marking eggs I use a Perpetual Dater. The cost is small and its use is non-injurious to the eggs.—Ben Leigh Smith.

Would use a rubber stamp with name and address of farm or person sending eggs, and with date attached.—Emory E. Banks.

**
No. 49.

What methods prove most successful in hatching eggs with hens?

Fertile eggs with sound shells; nest free from mites; a good hen; corn, water, grit.—Charles A. French.

I set hens in boxes, similar to those used for laying, with a door in front, which is kept closed. The nest is of hay or straw. Once a day each hen is let off, say twenty minutes, to eat and drink and then fastened in.—Frank C. Burdick.

Have set hens in every conceivable place and manner, but when a hen is given 13 eggs and can leave the nest at will for food and water, she is pretty sure to give a good hatch. My nests are made of straw or hay over earth or ashes. I always leave my sitters severely alone, except at testing time, but always keep an eye out for dirty nests, broken eggs, etc.—Harry C. Nunan.

Have or secure fertile eggs from vigorous stock; keep lice out of nests of setting hens, and hatchies will be good. Mine are.—Robert Atkins.

Method of *hands off*.—Wm. C. King.

As Leghorns are not reliable setters, I shut them in a cage or coop, and give water and feed.—Matt G. Robson.

Our method of setting hens has proved very successful with us, and we think it the best of any we have seen. We have a nest box with slide cover of laths, and an "A" rack of laths to set up in front of the nest box. Put the hen on the nest, shut the slide, leave her alone till the second morning. Then feed and water her, giving her the run of the rack. If she returns to the nest in 30 minutes, or before, she is ready for the eggs. If she does not return, gently drive her on and shut the slide and try her again next morning. If she does not go back, take her to the laying pen for she will not make a good setter. This method saves fighting among the hens, and changing from one nest to the other.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Some years hens set finely, and some years I get disgusted with them. But I have learned one or two points. Be sure and have nest box large enough, and don't have it slope too much to centre, as eggs are more liable to be broken. If set outdoors with small run, it is best to tie some old cotton

cloth or bagging on sides of run, as they seem to stick better if they cannot see all outdoors. Keep water, corn and grit before them, and furnish some place to wallow. I never like to set a hen in the hen-house, or fasten her on the nest.—Benj. S. Dowse, Sherborn, Mass.

Take a box about 15 inches square and high, open on one side. Nail a six inch board across bottom for nest. Put some dry dirt in bottom and make nest of fine straw. Place in a rather dark place (not in house with other hens). Dust hen with Lambert's Death to Lice and shut her in. Let her off the next day to eat and drink, and if she goes back it may be safe to put eggs under her. Let her off at a regular time each day and give her plenty of corn, water and grit.—Emory E. Banks.

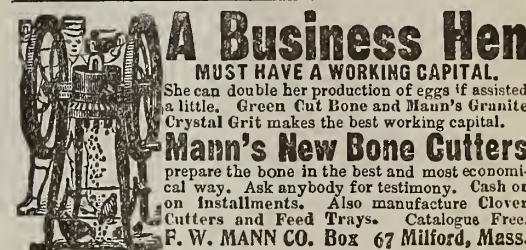
I set mine in boxes of any convenient size, put a little earth in the bottom and litter on top. Put in eggs washed clean. Take the hens off each day about noon for food and water, and also again evenings on very hot days, so the eggs can cool and the hens get a drink. Out of 56 White Leghorn eggs set in May, 54 hatched, from which I raised 20 nice pullets and sold the cockerels when small. This is in a city. I would not let some hens go back to their nests as soon as they wanted to. Others I returned sooner than they liked. I avoided extremes.—Stephen Barnsdale, Rochester, N.Y.

No. 50.

Do you believe in moistening eggs under a hen while setting, or will she do it sufficiently herself?

I have never moistened eggs. Leave that to the hen. I have noticed that a hen that steals her nest generally gets good chicks, so when I set one I always put in soil and hollow it out like a nest and add a little hay. They bring out good, lively chicks.—Matt G. Robson.

Set eggs in nest that will allow abundance of ventilation both above and



A Business Hen

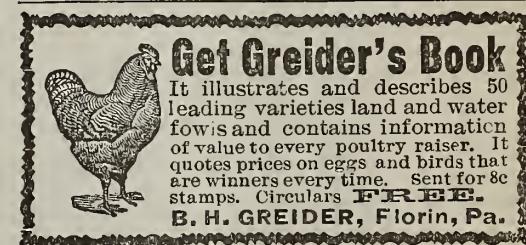
MUST HAVE A WORKING CAPITAL.
She can double her production of eggs if assisted a little. Green Cut Bone and Mann's Granite Crystal Grit makes the best working capital.

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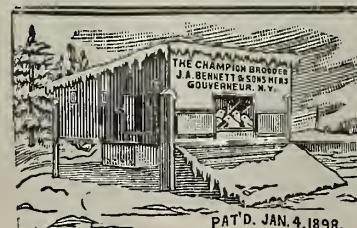
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White Wyandottes,
Trap Nests.

Single Comb White Leghorns,
Barred and White Plymouth Rocks.

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EGGS FOR HATCHING: BRAHMAMS, \$2 per 15; \$5 for 50. All other varieties, \$1.50 per 15; \$4 per 50. Egg orders shipped in rotation as near as possible. To avoid delays send orders early, so we may book dates. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N.J.

GOOD FERTILITY.
RAPID GROWTH.

HARDINESS
AND VIGOR.

below, and no moisture can improve the hatch. The hen does not supply any moisture and the egg itself contains the amount sufficient to hatch it, if proper ventilation is provided.—Wm. C. King.

No; hens are made to hatch eggs and under all ordinary conditions nature will take care of the moisture problem. The necessary moisture is in the egg and not in the hen.—Ben Leigh Smith.

I do not moisten eggs. I do not believe that one drop of water would get inside of an egg shell. I consider moisture a positive damage by chilling.—Stephen Barnsdale.

No; an incubator requires little if any moisture, much less a hen.—Emory E. Banks.

I have never moistened eggs and have set them in buildings and out on the ground, with equal results.—Benj. S. Dowse.

No; think there is nothing to be gained by such action.—Robert Atkins.

Never moisten eggs under hens in Spring months, but I always get better results by moistening them about 18th or 19th day, when hatching during June, July or August.—Harry C. Nunan.

No.—Frank C. Burdick.

She will do all, if she is like mine. I never heard who moistened a crow's eggs in a tree top, or a partridge's on the ground; but they seem to get fair hatches.—Charles A. French.

Believe it is a positive injury in most cases, while it is unnatural and a waste of precious time in all cases.—D. T. H.

NO. 51.

Has the feed of a hen while sitting any influence upon the moisture of the body?

No; don't think so.—Emory E. Banks. Have not noticed; possibly it has.—Matt G. Robson.

Always feed my hens while setting whole corn and do not know how that affects the moisture of the hen's body.—Harry C. Nunan.

It may be, but I have never noticed it.—Robert Atkins.

Mine get whole corn, which is not very moist, and water which is all moisture—but cannot give the exact proportion in which they mix them.—Charles A. French.

Do not believe it has any.—D. T. H.

Don't know; I feed nothing but corn.—Frank C. Burdick.

NO. 52.

If you are located in a more or less damp climate and your hen houses are dry and warm in Winter, explain how they are built to secure warmth and dryness?

Here close to the lake, in fact all through South Ontario (Canada) the atmosphere is damp in Winter. But I have my hen house warm and dry all Winter, with hens laying good right along cold or wet. This year so far has been very changeable, wet and cold. My house is built on the continuous plan, facing south, seven feet high in front, six in rear, twenty feet front to each pen, twelve feet wide. Have close board partitions between each pen, with door in front part of partition on double spring hinges to swing both ways. Outside of house is built of

common lumber, planed on one side, so as to make it of one thickness. Back and sides are tightly battened. Roof is made with 3-ply tar felt and gravel. Inside is lathed and plastered. The front has two windows of twelve lights, 10 x 16 glass. The door is cut in half, the upper part being hooked back during nice weather, a wire screen being put in its place to keep the hens from flying out. The windows are put in as high up as possible so the sun shines right to the back of the pens. With a window on each side of the door, and the half door left open, there is sunshine all day in some parts of the pen, which keeps it perfectly dry. Each pen contains 25 hens, laying from 12 to 20 eggs each day all Winter.—D. T. H.

Mines are damp; cannot avoid it. It is damp here a good deal of the time. In Winter fog and rain come often, followed by cold snaps.—Charles A. French.

Last year I filled in with road dust above the level of outside, and the ground was dry all Winter. This year I was two feet below the level and had the house more or less damp. You can bet from this on it will be level or higher.—Matt G. Robson.

Sills are laid six inches above the level of ground, and the body of house is filled in with gravel. My dryest houses have board floors, which I prefer. Houses are *small enough* (not large enough) to accommodate the fowls,

and their bodies throw off sufficient heat to warm the roosting room.—Wm. C. King.

The Climate of Chicago is damp in Winter and my hen houses are dry. They are built of common lumber, covered on the outside with tar paper and Neponset paper. Lined inside (including floor) with tar paper, carefully tacked on. In fact the lumber is used only to give rigidity and strength to the building. The three thicknesses of stout paper exclude dampness and retain the heat generated from the fowls' bodies. Houses are only seven feet high in front and six feet in the rear. One-eighth of front of houses is taken up with glass windows, which admit sunlight to almost every square inch of surface inside. For cold weather, curtains on windows at night and in front of roosts. Water freezes in the pens, but combs in curtained enclosure never.—E. L. C. Morse, Chicago, Ills.

Low houses, lined with building paper and board floors, tend much as anything to keep a house warm and dry.—Emory E. Banks.

W. WYANDOTTES. 13 eggs \$1.50; 26 for \$2. From fine stock. O. F. Caunty, Parkville, N. Y.

R. and S. C. R. I. REDS. Stock for sale. Eggs \$4.00 per 100. Irving Crocker, Seneca Falls, N. Y.

WHITE WYANDOTTES exclusively. Prolific layers. Eggs from the best of stock \$1.25 per 15. L. G. HELLER, Bridgeton, N. J.

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HANSSON'S R. I. REDS won at Boston, 1901. Eggs from strong, vigorous stock \$2 per 15; \$5 per 100. W. Wyandottes are bred for eggs and lots of them. Eggs \$2 per 15. A. A. Hansson, Maplewood, Mass.

\$1800 EASY TERMS—will buy five acre poultry plant. Fifty miles from New York. Good buildings. Address, A. W. BREWSTER, Hammonton, N. J.

BARRED Plymouth Rock Eggs. \$2 per 13; \$4 per 50; \$7 per 100. Fine vigorous stock from leading strains. Abram Tallman, Englewood, N. J.

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No. 53.

What is your system of ventilation in Winter to avoid dampness?

My main house is 60' x 15 feet and the first Winter was troubled with dampness or moisture dripping from roof and walls. Since then I open for an hour or more, no matter how cold a day it is, and that does the business. —Frank C. Burdick.

Small hole in each end of house as near the top as possible. Open day time and close at night.—Wm. C. King.

I have small holes overhead and on cold weather cover holes. It has answered very well, but not perfect. I have been working along the lines of ventilation same as used on board ship, but in this cold climate I will have to spread the air more, and have been figuring to control it by a system of pipes, the same as water and spray.—Matt G. Robson.

Open up the houses and let the wind draw through the warmest part of the day a little while. No very elaborate system of ventilation is needed in latitude 44 degrees 15" N.—Charles A. French.

Opening the door and windows on clear days permits the ingress of sufficient fresh air, if the house is ordinarily dry. The floor should be above the ground outside.—Robert Atkins.

Open doors and windows most of the day, when weather is fit, leaving windows partly open on mild Winter nights, having them hinged at bottom so they can be left open much or little according to temperature.—Emory E. Banks.

Open the windows every day as long as you can without injury to the fowls. With inch boards and three thicknesses of stout paper on them and board floor lined with tar paper, six inches above soil, no dampness can enter from the outside. Fowls' breath generates dampness inside, but this can be overcome by admitting fresh air from the outside.—E. L. C. Morse.

To avoid dampness in my houses in Winter, every bright day when not windy or cold enough to freeze the fowls' combs, I open windows wide through the middle of the day.—Harry C. Nunan.

By leaving door open all day as stated in my reply to question No. 52. In my experience it is the most reliable and safest way of ventilation in Winter. But in Summer I take the windows out and put in wire screens to keep out vermin.—D. T. H.

My system of ventilation is to leave the door or window or a hole open, according to the wind and cold. My house is 12 x 20, with a door in the East end. That door is open mornings when it is nearly zero weather, while the hens are scratching their breakfasts out of the litter, and then closed. Results, no colds. My 44 pullets earned about \$2 per week above feed during January, 1901.—Stephen Barnsdale.

Open the windows. There are very few days in Winter that they cannot be opened more or less. Am more afraid of colds and drafts than lack of ventilation.—Benj. S. Dowse.

Ventilators are an abomination; use doors, windows and common sense all the year round.—Ben Leigh Smith.

We have no ventilators in our poultry houses, but close them up in cold weather as tightly as possible. On sunshiny days we open the doors and let the wind draw through and dry them up and change the air. As our stock keeps in good health this method seems to be sufficient.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Belated Replies.

In the January issue of A FEW HENS, under "Belated Replies," I find a gentleman from Massachusetts recommends milk for hens. As I am a beginner in hen culture and a student of pathology, I am seeking knowledge.

Question: Has any of the readers of A FEW HENS ever found any bad results from feeding milk (in any form) to either chicks or hens?

Explanation: Knowing that poultry are affected with tuberculosis, most especially of the liver, where and how came this infection? I had a pullet dressed some time ago and the liver was found tuberculosis. The egg was hatched here and the chick fed on milk from the creamery, with table scraps, grain, etc. In this section there are a number of cattle killed yearly affected with tuberculosis, and I can positively say that some of this diseased meat, as well as the milk before the animal is slaughtered, reaches the poultry yard in its raw state.

Yet I have watched your paper for a year in the hope of seeing the word used. Possibly if it were published by and contributed to by the consumers we would find something like this:

"I bought a fine fat pullet, or cockerel, or turkey, or, etc., and my servant brought it to me after opening and found the liver quite large, lighter shade than normal, covered with what looked like pustules (very small)."

As far as my knowledge goes, a liver that is not adhered to any of the surrounding organs should be detached and burned, and the carcass used for

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food. But should the liver be adhered to the surrounding organs, I could not recommend the carcass for food.—W. B. K.

** New Questions.

61. How do you prevent your hens becoming uncomfortably crowded and consequently overheated on the roosts?
62. What is a good rule to govern feeding mash in the morning? How much in weight of the *dry mash* per hen? How much mixed grains—wheat, oats, corn—per hen per day?
63. What kinds of grain foods pay best to cultivate for poultry?
64. Have you ever caponized a chick at the age of five or six months and then make a good capon of it at the age of ten months?
65. Did you ever try alternating male birds in a pen, how did you do it, and what was the result in fertility of eggs?
66. What do you consider the most important rules to observe in the care of hens to insure strong fertility?
67. What do you consider the best curtains for a scratching shed, and how do you prepare same to make them wind and water proof?
68. Out of a sitting of 15 eggs, shipped from a distance, how many chickens would you consider a satisfactory hatch?
69. How many eggs have you found to be about right to set under a hen?
70. How do you prevent hens flying over the fence?

Artificial Hatching and Brooding.

While no Doubt There are Both Good and Poor Incubators, the Good are Greatly in the Majority—If Hatches do not Go Right, Catechise Yourself and Examine the Eggs.

The beginner finds many stumbling blocks in the artificial methods, but experience soon shows the trick of how to easily step over them.

W. Theo. Wittman, in *Ohio Poultry Journal*, says any man who stays up all night with an incubator needs regulating worse than the incubator does. Blame the incubator, if you will, for your poor results, but—our word for it—there is generally something wrong with “the man behind the machines.”

While the incubator has reached nearer perfection than the brooder, much of the trouble laid to brooders is due to the care and feed given the young chicks the first week after hatching. Hatching the eggs is not the hardest part of the task. Any first-class machine will do this if the conditions are adhered to, says E. O. Roessle. After the chicks are out the trouble begins. Up to within a few years, incubators and brooders were used only by fanciers and commercial poultry keepers, but of late, says *New England Homestead*, they are being very generally adopted by farmers who raise from 100 to 500 chickens a year.

Neither a hen nor an incubator can hatch an infertile egg, says *Texas Farm and Ranch*. Neither can they hatch every fertile egg, except on special occasions. What we mean is that to hatch

every fertile egg is not impossible, but it is exceedingly improbable.

E. O. Roessle, in *Country Gentleman*, says there is much more to be learned in the artificial method of raising chickens than what the book of instructions gives. Yet not half the beginners read these instructions carefully, with a view to understanding them.

While there are still many points of difference between manufacturers as to hot air or hot water heat, moisture or no moisture, cooling and ventilation, yet most of the incubators now on the market will hatch eggs satisfactorily in the hands of a careful operator, says *American Agriculturist*. By the use of common sense and following the instructions laid down by the makers, even a beginner can expect good hatches from fertile eggs. With experience, hatches of 75 to 90 per cent. of fertile eggs are commonly obtained.



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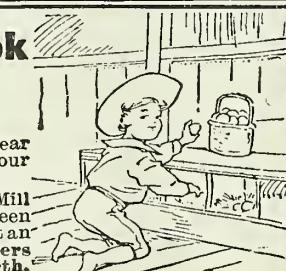
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Proper Food Not Only Makes Eggs and Flesh, but it Keeps the Bird in Vigor and Strength—Improper Food Opens the Door to Disease.

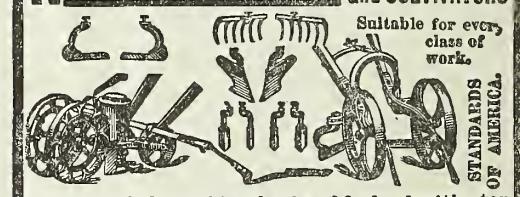
Are you feeding green cut bone? Be careful not to feed tainted cut bone. Green cut bone is a highly concentrated food and must not be fed too liberally. Overfeeding of green cut bone is apt to cause leg troubles, diarrhoea, bowel complaints and worms.

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POULTRY PAPER, illust'd, 20 pages, 25 cents per year. 4 months trial 10 cents. Sample Free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cents. Catalogue of poultry books free. Poultry Advocate, Syracuse, N. Y.



“Best Liver Pill Made.” Parsons’ Pills

Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. They expell all impurities from the blood. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston.

American Agriculturist says the maximum ration of green cut bone for laying hens is a half ounce each per day.

It would be just as wise for man to try to live on bread alone, as it is to endeavor to keep poultry on a single diet of wheat or any other grain.

Prof. James Dryden says the hen requires a variety of food, if for no other reason than to improve her appetite, so that she may consume food enough to produce eggs in abundance.

Farm and Home says cider pomace will be eaten quite freely by fowls in winter and serves the same purpose as roots or green food, at less cost. Preserve the pomace in hogsheads or tight barrels and press down the contents with jackscrews or barrel headers.

Golden Egg says a poultry keeper living far from the city often found it difficult to procure animal food for his fowls. After a great deal of study and experimenting he says that he regards such foods as beans, peas, nuts, sunflower seed and peanuts equal to animal food.

It is stated by one authority that 100 pounds of clover meal contains enough lime for the shells of 17 1-2 dozen eggs, says *Indiana Farmer*. Clover is very rich in protein and contains potash, soda, phosphorus acid and other ingredients that make it one of the best feeds for fowls that can be named. It contains all the essentials in well balanced proportion, and is palatable to the fowls as well as healthful.

Dr. W. F. Roth, in reply to the question "Must fowls have salt?" wrote as follows: "From my experience I am convinced that an excess of salt is injurious and almost certain death to chickens. They can endure, and as much as the physical economy needs must have, a certain quality of chloride of sodium; but this should be fed in imperceptible quantities, for the rule is that the tissues gather enough sodium supply out of the food to answer all purposes for the uses of that mineral in the blood and body."

Prof. James Dryden, in an address before the Utah Farmers' Institute, said: "A short study of the composition of wheat and of eggs will explain why a profitable egg yield cannot be expected from wheat alone. Supposing you

feed a hen which weighs 3.5 pounds, 3.25 ounces of wheat a day. Of course a hen of that weight would not long consume that weight of wheat alone. Supposing, further, that the hen uses 2.75 ounces of that for the maintenance of the body; that leaves half an ounce to be converted into eggs, assuming that all the food is digested, which, of course, is not the case. In half an ounce of wheat there is about .06 of an ounce of protein. But the egg, according to chemical analysis, contains about one-quarter ounce of protein. So that, assuming that the hen consumes and digests 3.25 ounces of wheat per day and that she uses 2.75 ounces of that for maintenance of the body, there is available each day just one-fourth enough protein for one egg. In other words, it will take four days to get the necessary amount of protein for one egg. But the egg has other constituents; so has wheat. The half-ounce of wheat contains about one and one half times as much carbohydrates and fat as one egg contains. The hen fed on wheat alone has a surplus of one material and a deficiency of another. In other words, she has enough carbohydrates and fat to make an egg and a half a day, but has only protein enough to make one egg in six days. You place the hen in an awkward position by feeding her wheat alone. Wheat does not contain the egg-making materials in proper proportions. Corn is even worse than wheat in this respect."

Poultry Supplies. Flint grit 35c, 100 lbs., factory. Incubators, brooders, bone cutters, etc. Lowest prices known. Circular. S. W. Johnson, Woodsfords, Me.

Advance Trap Nest. Once tried, always used. Circular free. W. Darling, So. Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

ROSE and S. C. White, S. C. Brown and S. C. Buff Leghorns. Eggs 75 cts. per 15; \$4.00 for 105. Mr. and Mrs. S. RIDER, Maryland, N. Y.

EVERGREEN POULTRY FARM. White Wyandottes exclusive. Bred for utility as well as fancy. Eggs \$1.00 per 12; \$2.00 per 30. A. H. GERMOND, Stanfordville, N. Y.

My Brown Leghorns

are great layers. Eggs for hatching from pure bred, farm raised stock. Prices reasonable. Write. Egg record free. LEE SHORTT, Lower Cabot, Vt.

CRYSTAL SPRING FARM White Wyandottes and Buff Plymouth Rocks are bred for eggs and meat, yet they have won wherever shown this Fall and Winter. They will please you. Eggs for hatching. Write for prices. E. R. PERRY & SON, No. Charlestown, N. H.

Turkey Culture.

On Farms Rich in Pasturage, With an Adjoining Grove for Shelter During the Summer, Turkey Culture can be Made one of the Most Profitable Branches of Farm Industry.

Avoid relationship in breeding.

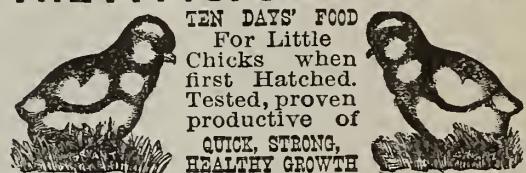
Turkeys are apt to have crooked breasts from improper breeding.

Geo. M. Tucker says: Obtain a cock from a distance if possible. I find that if he has considerable wild blood in him his offspring are stronger for it.

George M. Tucker, in *Farm and Home*, says he has found that turkeys raised from the same cock and hens will, after a few years, be liable to crooked breasts and other deformities.

[Continued on page 147.]

THE F. P. C. CHICK MANNA



TEN DAYS' FOOD

For Little

Chicks when

first Hatched.

Tested, proven

productive of

QUICK, STRONG,

HEALTHY GROWTH

Highly Prized by POULTRY RAISERS.

Send for Descriptive Price List of the F. P. C. PREPARATIONS for POULTRY, HORSES, CATTLE, Etc.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY

F. P. CASSEL, Lansdale, Pa.

RESULTS OF
F. P. C. Chick Manna.

MAPLEHURST FARM. BUFFINTON'S BUFFS.

Fall River, Mass., August 24, 1900.
F. P. Cassel. Dear Sir:—I have used this season nearly 400 pounds of Chick Manna. It has given better satisfaction than any chick food I ever used, and I have been in the poultry business 35 years.

Yours truly, ROWLAND G. BUFFINTON.

CRESENT FARM . . .

Controls the largest combination of poultry farms in the world. HENRY M. LADD, Proprietor.
Cleveland, Ohio, February 5th, 1901.

F. P. Cassel, Lansdale, Pa. Dear Sir:—We used your Chick Manna last season and had marvelous success. If you will give us the agency for Portage and Summit Counties we can handle a large amount of it for you. I shall be pleased to hear your terms. Respectfully yours, HENRY M. LADD.

Under date February 13, 1901, we have from the Crescent Farm: "Among all the chicks we raised last Spring fed on your Manna, we never lost one by disease." Cordially yours, HENRY M. LADD.



"Profitable Poultry Keeping in All Its Branches"

is the title of our new 1901 catalogue, which is the largest, the most complete and comprehensive work ever issued on the poultry subject. Contains 224, 8x11 inch pages, 200 new and original illustrations and a world of matter, all fresh and right up to date. Has numerous articles by well known poultry specialists, together with their faces, homes and their plants.

This New Book Weighs One Pound and a Quarter

and costs 10 cents postage for mailing. Send us the 10 cents to mail it and we will make you a present of the book. It has cost us in the past \$3 or more to get as much information as it contains. You will agree to this when you see the book. It tells incidentally all about the renowned Cyphers Non-moisture, Self-ventilating, Self-regulating Incubators and Cyphers Safety Brooders. How they are made, what they are better than all others. Write for a copy to-day, enclosing 10 cents.

will agree to this when you see the book. It tells incidentally all about the renowned Cyphers Non-moisture, Self-ventilating, Self-regulating Incubators and Cyphers Safety Brooders. How they are made, what they are better than all others. Write for a copy to-day, enclosing 10 cents.

Ask for Book 29 Address nearest office.

THE CYPHERS INCUBATOR COMPANY,

CHICAGO, ILL. 323-325 Dearborn St.

WAYLAND, N. Y.

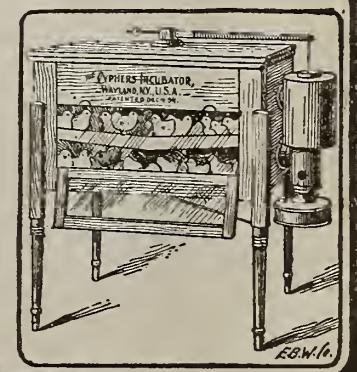
Factory and Home Office.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

8 Park Place.

BOSTON, MASS.

34 Merchants Row.



A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY
MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

Sample Copy Free.

Price, Monthly, Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,
PUBLISHERS.

ADVERTISING RATE:

The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There are fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter, by I. S. Johnson & Co., Publishers, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL.

Gentle Before another issue of A Spring. FEW HENS, March will have concluded her antics, and "gentle Spring" will be with us. It will be the time for the advent of the sprightly chick, the growing of the tender grass and the appearance of the good fat worm. Spring is the poultryman's season. It is a season inspired with ambition, and the very kind of weather that gives a good crop of "chicken fever."

Spring is a good time to plant that advertisement. The people are looking for eggs for hatching and other wants especially attractive to the beginner. Have you them for sale? If so, this is the paper you want to advertise in. We reach the buyers, because we cater to the wants of the beginners.

Neither the publishers nor the editor claim that A FEW HENS is the best advertising medium. We are not that vain. But we do believe that it is one of the best. Our advertisers are even more emphatic than we are.

For instance, here is an extract from a personal letter to the editor, from Edgar Warren, the publisher of the book "200 Eggs a Year Per Hen!"

"I have concluded to restrict my advertising for the present to——and A FEW HENS, the two best poultry papers in the world." Now as Mr. Warren has tested all the leading publications, and as he has an attractive book to sell, it is quite a compliment to A FEW HENS to know that it is one of the two best poultry advertising mediums in the world. It won't do to state the name of the other publication that Mr. Warren mentions, as it might hurt the feelings of the other editors.

We should advise our readers to doubt Mr. Warren's verdict, and then to investigate by placing an advertisement in A FEW HENS as a test. Seeing is believing.

**

More B. F. Brundred, Oil City, Pa.: Praise. "I was home sick yesterday and devoted a good bit of time in reading through your February A FEW HENS. I am not a first-class poultryman by any means, but it does seem to me you are issuing a strictly first-class paper. There is no taffy in this—it is my honest opinion."

Jos. Badye, Springland, L. I.: "A FEW HENS is just the paper the beginner needs. I receive nine poultry papers every month, but none as welcome as A FEW HENS."

Chas. S. Fowler, Asheville, N. C.: "Your Brevity Symposium is full of instruction and interest. I also fully agree with Matt G. Robson, Port Leyden, N. Y., in regard to twice-a-month issue—Don't."

Daniel Tooker, Holt, Mich.: "Well, as it has been about one month since I let A FEW HENS drop, it seems as though I have lost something and have got to have the paper back again. I took a paper published in this State that was offered me for half price and I dropped yours. But I have made up my mind to have what I need, even if I must send a good distance for it."

C. E. Brice, Newport, R. I.: "I take two poultry papers, but like A FEW HENS the best. It is always short and to the point."

Prizes The egg contest that we for Eggs. announced last month is going to be a rousing success, at least judging from point of entries. Up to this writing, among the breeds entered are: Light Brahmias; Barred, White and Buff Plymouth Rocks; Silver, White and Buff Wyandottes; Brown and Buff Leghorns and Rhode Island Reds. This will make a pretty hot competition, and more good will result from it than the mere drawing of prizes.

It is our intention, as near as we possibly can, to keep track of all the pullets hatched, so that we may in our next year's laying contest on the farm be able to say just what the different strains are doing. For instance: Barred Plymouth Rocks (Colby); Silver Wyandottes (Child) etc. In this way the different strains will be more forcibly advertised than ever. A good illustration is given in our laying list on first page of this number, which shows: "No. 163, White Wonder (Merrill), 19 eggs."

It is gratifying to see how well the proposition of this egg test is taken by our readers. One writes: "I think this a very good plan to get at knowing what breed lays the largest and best eggs." Another writes: "I don't know when I have felt like slapping some one on the back, in a friendly way, as I did Reid, when I read of your acceptance of his suggestion. The idea and the liberal offer made in connection with it, are worthy of the people from whom they came." Another suggests: "Why not continue the contest by keeping all the pullets raised from the eggs to see who has the best laying stock, and killing the cockerels at broiler size to determine which or who has the best broiler carcasses and which reached the proper size and weight the quickest. This would be sure to create an immense interest, although I am going to predict that you will be pretty well swamped as it is. Before April 10th, I bet you will be putting eggs in the incubators as you cannot have enough sitters for all the eggs you will get." Still another suggests: "Why not use an incubator to

test the eggs? We vote for incubator test, as you are good on that and hens' may break eggs and then how can you tell about fertility? Could not each contestant's eggs have a different number for each variety of eggs; that is, each dozen have the same number and each contestant a different number? This will be interesting. I also wish you would explain in A FEW HENS the different and best methods of packing. Your method has been complimented by one of our customers."

In reply to an inquiry, we would say that we will prepay the postage, freight and expressage on all premiums won, no matter in what part of the United States the contestant may reside.

Another point we wish all to remember: *All eggs must be sent to Michael K. Boyer, Hammonton, N. J., and not to our Boston, Mass. office.* We thought we made that plain enough in our last issue, and yet some entries were sent to Boston instead of Hammonton. Do not make that mistake in sending eggs, as Hammonton is 400 miles from Boston.

Now in order that the terms, etc., may be fully understood, we hereby reproduce the following from our February issue:

\$3.00 for the best brown eggs (American class).

\$3.00 for the best brown eggs (Asiatic class).

Book "Poultry-Craft" for second best of both classes.

Farm-Poultry one year to third best of both classes.

\$3.00 for best white eggs.

Book "Poultry-Craft" for second best.

Farm-Poultry one year to third best. Three trap nests, with right to build, for best fertility.

Two trap nests, with right to build, for second best.

One trap nest, with right to build, for third best.

Farm-Poultry one year for the best packed lot of eggs.

Can of Sheridan's Condition Powder for the second best lot.

Besides the above prizes, we will give to all who compete a set of books, as follows:

Broilers for profit, by Boyer.

Farm-Poultry Doctor, by Sanborn.

A Living from Poultry, by Boyer.

Profitable Poultry Farming, by Boyer. Should any of those who compete already have the above books, or a part of them, they can substitute "Winter Eggs" by Robinson, for any book, or A FEW HENS one year. Should the contestant have all the above books, he can have A FEW HENS sent him for four years, or have the paper sent to four of his friends for one year.

In that way there will be no blanks, and all have an equal chance of winning one or more of the better prizes.

The following rules must be strictly observed:

1st. No eggs must be shipped before April 1st, and all must be in Hammonton by April 10th.

2d. No eggs must be shipped more than two days old (time of shipment).

3d. All eggs must be sent express paid.

4th. The name of breed must be written with pencil on each egg.

5th. All eggs sent must be addressed to Michael K. Boyer, Hammonton, N. J., and marked "for egg contest."

6th. Improperly shaped eggs, or eggs too large or too small for the breed will be rejected.

It is our intention to provide a setting hen for each dozen eggs sent, so that we can test the fertility of the eggs. In our announcement we intend giving the name and address of the competitor, the variety, color, manner packed, and the fertility. In that way our readers will know just where to write for the best.

Do not send double-yolked-eggs in the hope that size will win, for that will play a small part. What we want is the medium sized hatchable eggs.

In order that we may know how many setting hens to have ready, we ask that all who will compete at once notify us, stating how many dozens they will send. Breeders of several varieties can enter any or all of them, but there must be a dozen of each variety.

**An Ex-
perience.** Frank D. Peacock, Herkimer, N. Y., sends us the following experience: "I like A FEW HENS all right, and am well satisfied with it as a monthly. I have raised poultry all my life in a 'go-as-you-please' way, until about the time A FEW HENS came into existence. Then I made up my mind to change. Now I raise White Wyandottes. I have tried many others, but the 'Dottes alone remained with me throughout, as I can make a dollar quicker with them than with any other breed.

"Your Brevity Symposium is one of the most important features of your paper. I often feel like taking a hand at the questions, but think my advice not so good as some who are answering the questions.

"I live in a damp locality on the hills. It is dry a month before it is in the valley. I have trouble to keep the house dry. I cover floor with sand and loam over Winter, making it hard to keep clean, but it gives hens plenty of ground to dig in.

"Your correspondent (page 124) had about the same trouble with his house I had, when my present house was first built. I was afraid I was not going to get it tight enough. I built it single walled, then covered it top, bottom and sides with tar paper. I said: 'It will be warm.' It would have made a first-class cold storage building. I did what almost all greenies do—wrote to Boyer about it. That was four years ago. Now I have it double boarded, all cracks covered inside, double door and double windows; doors in the center of house, roosts on ends to right and left of door; two pens, both doors shut at night, one of them open all day and the other open from 9 a. m. until at least 3 p. m., every day, no matter how cold. I regulate the space it stands open by outside conditions; that is, from an inch up to wide open. No ventilators for me. Water will seldom freeze to a scale with door open, even at zero. Last year the average egg record was 160 eggs per hen. Beginners are too careful in some respects. Air-tight at night and free air in the day for me.

"A scratching sled house would be better than mine. I could regulate air by the curtain and then keep the door shut if I wished.

"Close attention to advice given in A FEW HENS will keep one from going wrong. It is easy to get and worth keeping."

**Hard
Workers.** There may be better poultrymen in the country than W. R. Curtiss & Co., Ransomville, N. Y., but we doubt if there are any better business men or harder workers. We have had some complaints against them, but upon investigation we found that they were doing their best to please the complainant, even at a loss to themselves. It has been the experience of all poultrymen that, in doing a large business, there are bound to be some who will kick just for the sake of kicking. When, in such cases, a poultryman meets the customer with a fair and square proposition, he does fully his duty. We might say that

in every case where we have a complaint against an advertiser in our paper, we make prompt investigation, and have in every case succeeded in settling the trouble satisfactory to all concerned.

Niagara Farm is situated 13 miles from Niagara Falls, on the R. W. & W. O. R. R., in the town of Ransomville. They have this season 1000 head of breeding stock (White Wyandottes and Pekin Ducks), 20,000 square feet floor space, under cover, using 30 incubators (Prairie State and Cyphers), large size.

Last season Curtiss & Co. marketed 10,000 ducks and chicks, principally at Buffalo, Rochester, Detroit, Syracuse and New York city. They expect to raise 15,000 head the coming season and will also have a line of trap nests in use.

The farm consists of a brooding house 200 feet long and 12 houses for breeding stock. From four to five men are employed in Summer and three in Winter. An oil engine is used for pumping water.

During the busy season a ton of food is used a day.

Snugly Tucked Away

there are often a thousand lice on one fowl or hog, where a careful inspection would not reveal a dozen. When LEE'S LICE KILLER is used, it kills not only the mites on the roosts and about the poultry house, but also all the body lice on the fowls. That's just the difference between LEE'S LICE KILLER and cheap imitations. They all kill some lice, but LEE'S LICE KILLER gets them all. You can take a lousy chicken or hog that has been treated with other lice killers and insect powders and by use of LEE'S LICE KILLER bring to light more lice than you ever dreamed existed on a chicken or hog.

LEE'S LICE KILLER

is applied to the roosts for poultry; on bedding or rubbing posts for hogs. It kills all mites and lice on the roosts or wherever applied, and it then evaporates, forming a gas of the same weight as air. This gas or vapor penetrates the feathers of the chickens or the bristles of a hog, killing all insects on their bodies. A portion of the fluid evaporates more slowly, remaining about the place for a long time, disinfecting the premises and excluding all insect life. LEE'S LICE KILLER is never sold in bulk. When you buy it in our original air-tight packages you get it full strength, undiluted.

For sale in every State in the Union; endorsed by Poultry, Farm and Stock Journals everywhere. Send for handsomely illustrated booklet with testimonials and valuable information to the raiser of poultry and stock.

Special introductory offer to points where we have no agent.

PRICE, Quarts, 35 cents; Half Gallons, 60 cents; Gallons, \$1.00.

GEO. H. LEE CO., Omaha Neb., or 8 Park Place, New York.

200-Egg Incubator for \$12.

The simplicity of the Stahl incubators created a demand that forced the production to such great proportions it is now possible to offer a first-class 200-egg incubator for \$12. This new incubator is an enlargement of the famous

WOODEN HEN

recognized the most perfect small hatcher. This new incubator is thoroughly well made; is a marvel of simplicity, and so perfect in its working that it hatches every fertile egg. Write for anything you want to know about incubators. Send for the new free illustrated catalogue.

GEO. H. STAHL, Quincy, Ill.



Curtiss & Co. started in the poultry business as boys and grew up with the work. Naturally they met with many reverses, so sure to come to beginners, but having a large supply of pluck they kept at it, never tiring, never becoming discouraged, until today they have a successful plant, the largest in Western New York.

Curtiss & Co. are in the business for what there is in it, and to make the most out of their venture their constant aim is to produce eggs and meat at the least possible expense. They build no expensive houses, but make the buildings comfortable.

To best meet the trade they have this year they will breed 400 White Wyandottes and 600 Pekin ducks, their largest trade being in the latter.

An important branch of Niagara Farm is growing clover, which is cut up and prepared for sale. They shipped over 150 tons the past season. They have a machine of their own make which cuts, screens and packs in sacks all ready for market.

To meet all demands in cooling and shipping, it is necessary for Curtiss & Co. to annually store 50 loads of ice in their ice house.

Niagara Farm is composed of 65 acres of land, devoted to growing such crops as are needed in the business, and to furnish range for the stock, insuring strong fertility.

In a personal letter to us, W. R. Curtiss & Co. write:

"We are breeding a short, blocky Wyandotte, that are heavy layers; pure white and stay white, with yellow legs and bay eyes. We do not say that they have reached a point where every bird is stay-white, but 75 per cent. were that way this year, and we hope to beat that the coming season. W. Roy Curtiss, the senior partner, started this business when a boy, with one cockerel and four hens, Wyandottes. The Pan American show is within 25 miles of our place and we expect to be right in line to supply part of the enormous demand there will be for fowls and eggs."

Buffinton's Some years ago we paid Buffs. . . . a visit to Maplehurst Farm, the home of Rowland G. Buffinton, Fall River, Mass., and, like "Uncle Josh" would say: "We shall never forget it, the longest day we live." Of all the poultry farms we have ever visited, and they have not been a few, there were none on which we saw such a business system, such conveniences and so many novelties as we did on this place.

Mr. Buffinton began business in 1865, in which he has brought forth many novelties in the poultry line. He was the first to bring Buff Wyandottes and Buff Plymouth Rocks to public notice, first to advertise and show them. He bred Rhode Island Reds for nine years, and used considerable of that blood in making his Buff Wyandottes and Buff Plymouth Rocks. Many of the principal breeders of Rhode Island Reds of today got their seed to start with from Buffinton's stock. He has bred Buff Leghorns ever since they were imported into this country from England. Partridge Wyandottes and Partridge Ply-

mouth Rocks are two new varieties which he is now advertising, and Buff, Black, Partridge and White Cochon Bantams, come in for their share of care and trade.

Probably the greatest novelty on Maplehurst Farm, if not in this country, is Buff Ducks. These were imported from England, and are the only specimens in America at the present time. The color is dark buff, and breed true to color. They are great layers; in 1899 one duck laid 93 eggs in 91 days, and laid 146 eggs during the season.

Maplehurst Farm is located on Prospect street, 2 1-2 miles from Fall River Station (which is Mr. Buffinton's post office address), and 2 miles from Brayton's Station, on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. Ten minutes' walk from Egypt corner, on the Dighton, Somerset and Swansea Electric Road.

There is a row of poultry houses from the dwelling house to the far end of the farm, 48 in number, the yards being 24

x 240 feet. Such stock as is not suitable for breeding are sold alive in the market. The eggs are nearly all sold for hatching from January to September, after that they are put on the market for table use.

Peach and pear trees are planted in the poultry runs, from which Mr. Buffinton last year marketed 1500 baskets of peaches and 125 bushels of pears.



[PATENTED].

Century Revolving Cabinet

WOODS EGG-HOLDER CO., St. Louis.

(Editor. We use it on A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm and can fully endorse it.)

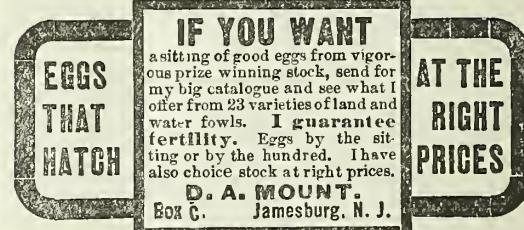
\$ a sitting. W. Wyandottes, Br. Leghorns. Scored stock. Hollyrood Poultry Farm, Crescent, La.

WHITE WYANDOTTES,

HEAVY LAYERS.

Bred for practical purposes. We use scratching sheds. Alternate male birds (keeping trio for each pen) and get strong fertile eggs in Winter. Eggs \$1.25 per 15; \$2.00 per 30; \$5.00 per 100. Can be called for at store if preferred.

I. J. STRINGHAM, 105 Park Place, N. Y. City. Or Glen Cove, Long Island.



Utility White Wyandottes

FROM THE BEST IN THE LAND.

EGGS \$2.00 PER 13; \$6.00 PER 100.

ROBERT ATKINS,

No. 26 West 15th Street, New York City.

Plant, Esopus-on-Hudson.

Poultry Marker.

With the Marker here illustrated, any form of mark may be adopted by punching the web between the toes. A complete record of chicks from different parties and strains can thus be kept, as well as to know your birds wherever they may be. It may save you money and a valuable bird. It costs, postpaid,



25 cts.

Send all orders to us.

FIVE MARKERS

SENT FOR \$1.00.

I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

White Wyandotte Eggs

from strong, vigorous, standard size and pure white birds, one sitting \$2; two sittings \$3.50; three sittings \$4.50. Incubator eggs \$5 for 100 eggs. If you wish vigor and strength, and birds with ability to lay well send me your orders.

Light Brahma Bantam Eggs from the very best blood in America. Send me \$3 and get 15 eggs.

Reliable Incubators and Brooders. Orr's Clear Grit and other poultry supplies. Circular free. D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

Nine hundred head of stock are quartered on the farm. The hatching is done in the Star incubators and the brooding by the Old Homestead brooders. Although Mr. Buffinton does not like to get out any chicks before March, he had 400 in the brooders in February. The demand for eggs is so great that he has hard work to keep enough for his own use, which made it necessary to start hatching a month or so earlier this season.

Cold Water Paint. Our attention has been called to Asbestine, a

cold water paint, with fire-proof and weather-proof qualities. Upon investigation we learned that it contained one of the most powerful antiseptics known, which makes the paint a germ killer and keeps the building in a condition easy to clean; can be washed without injury to the surface. There is no flaking off, as it forms a cement-like finish. Fire-proof, so that in any building painted with it, where kerosene stoves or lamps are used, there is no danger whatever. The Boston Board of Fire Underwriters recognize the paint and make a reduction where it is used.

All the above appealed so strongly to us that we at once sent for a supply, and at this writing are giving it several tests on our Experimental Farm. We tried it, so far, on woodwork, where it gives a fine finish; also on Rawhide lining paper where it closely resembles a kalsomined wall, and also on Neponset paper—but in the latter we are somewhat disappointed. Although we first sized the Nepon-

set there is something in the manufacture that does not take with Asbestine. However, we are giving it another coat, and will keep on experimenting until we find just what can be done with it.

The real tests have not yet been made, but if all claims are correct, we believe that this paint will be better than whitewash for interior work, and better than cheap oil paint for outdoor painting besides its fire-proof qualities would be invaluable for incubator rooms. We shall have more to say about this next month.

Editorial Chit-Chat. In an article entitled

"How New York is Fed by all the World," the New York *World* gives the following items concerning poultry and eggs: "New Yorkers eat 2,160,000 eggs daily, and, although the United States produces 10,000,000,000 yearly, this does not supply the demand, and Canada, Spain, Italy and even China have to help us out. The imported eggs amount to 15,000,000 dozen yearly. The choice turkeys, geese and ducks are from Maryland and Delaware. The West sends a cheaper grade of fowls. New Jersey also furnishes much in this line. By far the greatest quantity of eggs sold here arrive from the West."

The *American Stock-Keeper*, Boston, Mass., dons a new suit of clothes, including new head gear. Editor Atherton is to be congratulated on the wonderful change he makes in appearance of his paper. The *Stock-Keeper* is not only one of the best edited, but one of

the handsomest journals in this country, devoted to dogs, poultry, pigeons and pet stock. It is a weekly and dirt cheap at \$1.00 a year. H. W. Lacey, the well-known fancier, has charge of the kennel part of the paper.

Buff L. Cockerels. First premium at Suffolk Co., Riverhead. W. Darling, South Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

WHITE WYANDOTTE incubator eggs \$3 per hundred. M. A. KEELER, Bedford, N. Y.

Thoroughbred Belgian Hares. Fine color and quality. Does four months' old \$1. Fully matured stock \$1.50. W. H. WARREN, Ransomville, N. Y.

75c. WHITE WYANDOTTE Eggs
Wild Rose strain. Cir. free. E. COOK, Andover, Conn.

WHITE WYANDOTTE Eggs for hatching from stock bred for eggs. Winter layers \$1.50 per sitting. WM. WILSON, Normal, Nebraska.

S. C. BROWN LEGHORNS. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$3.00 per 50. Stock in the Fall bred for eggs and quality. H. F. EVANS, DeHaven, Pa.

LIGHT BRAHMAS. Fine heavy-laying hens, mated to Hartnett Farm cockerels. Eggs \$1.50 per 13. DANIEL S. LEHMAN, Hockersville, Dauphin County, Pa. Box 28.

BEST STRAINS Buff Wyandottes (Matti-son), R. C. Brown Leghorns (Kulp) R. C. Buff Leghorns, W. P. Rocks, Red Caps, R. C. B. Minorcas (Northup). \$1.00 and \$2.00. 15 eggs \$1.00 LEONARD A. WALTMAN & Co., Laddsburg, Pa.

LIGHT BRAHMAS. Highest standard; best show record. Eggs for hatching. Several fine exhibition and breeding c'k's for sale. Write for cir. of winnings, prices, etc. Robt. Hamilton, Ben-Avon, Pa.

FOR SALE. Eggs for hatching from Wh. Wyandottes, Light Brahmams and S. C. W. Leghorns; also W. Wyandottes and Light Brahmams. Cockerels from \$1.50 up. Geo. W. Dunnican, 531 Harrison St., Passaic, N. J.

MY 213 EGG GIANT White Wyandottes won six prizes at Boston, 1901 show, and five prizes at Milford, 1900. Strong, vigorous, farm raised stock. Unequaled in size, shape and snow-white plumage. \$2.00 per 15. Large brown eggs. H. J. W. FAY, Westboro, Mass.

DINELAND INCUBATOR AND BROODER

Don't forget the name—

PINELAND.

It stands for the highest excellence in incubators and brooders. For 19 years we have turned out *machines that satisfy*. We claim for the Pineland Incubator

The Most Scientific System of Ventilation.
The Greatest Economy of Fuel.
The Greatest Simplicity of Operation.
The Most Practical, Sensitive and Simple Regulator.
And the Most Durable Construction.

These are points which count. We don't ask you to buy until you have investigated our claims. Let us send you our catalog. We make Outdoor and Indoor brooders of all sizes that are simply marvels in simplicity and efficiency. Ours are the only Brooders which give the chicks ample room for comfort.

PINELAND INCUB. AND BROODER CO.
 BOX E, JAMESBURG, N. J.

In reply to an inquiry from F. E. Wight, Manton, Mich., we would say that the reason we do not charge labor in our annual report is that the editor is doing that work himself. Under the item of improvements labor is included, as that part was hired done. Also, the stock on hand, January 1, 1900, including breeding and surplus stock, amounted to \$481.25

We have before us several inquiries regarding F. P. C. Chick Manna, and in reply would say that we are more than pleased with its use for the first ten days' feeding. It seems to "touch the spot" with the youngsters, and if there is any grit in them they thrive wonderfully in consequence. We have used Chick Manna now for four years, and tried it alongside other methods of feeding, but can truthfully say that such flocks as are fed it regularly for the first ten days grow faster and are more active than the flocks where other systems were used. Chick Manna costs a little more than some articles on the market, but it is nevertheless the cheapest as it does its work so well.

At the eleventh hour, after every poultry journal was supplied with a copy, we received the supplement to the Prairie State Incubator Catalogue. For this oversight we have one black mark down against Cooper. For the typographical appearance, the grand color work and general make up, this supplement beats anything we have yet seen. Geo. Howard & Co., Washington, D. C., deserve that credit. The supplement gives a complete account of special model from 1895 to 1900, an account of their great plant, all about a special goose machine (the first on the market), and a host of testimonials that are convincing. Notwithstanding that there is a strong competition in the incubator market—owing to the many first-class machines offered for sale—the Prairie State people say they never had such a trade as they are having this year. Through the Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Company, 28 Vesey street, New York, they received an order for 123 machines to go to Sidney, N. W., and another order for 72 machines to go to South America. Besides all this the home trade is very heavy.

The Plymouth Rock World is a new journal hailing from Keokuk, Iowa. It is well gotten up and deserves success, but we have our doubts. Not that there is a lack of Rock breeders sufficient to support a specialty publication, but that it is difficult to round them up. The Plymouth Rock comes in for its share of patronage in all the poultry journals, and it is a question if Editor Henneman can say any more about this noble variety than what is monthly said in almost every publication that comes to our desk. We say this not to discourage the *World*, but rather to coach the editor to get ahead of all of us, and to advise the Plymouth Rock breeders to give the new paper a hearty support.

The egg contest which we announce, and the test of the pullets hatched from

those eggs, is going to make valuable reading. It is our hope that there will be quite a variety of breeds, so that we can test all the different varieties. We do not intend breeding these pullets, but will yard them and use trap nests to tell the tale. This work will go far towards settling the question of which are the best layers, as all will have the same care and feed. Certain breeds under certain conditions outdistances others, but here will be all varieties placed on the same level. Up to this writing the entries are coming in pretty thick and there will be a hustling in gathering up broody hens between the 1st and 10th of April.

The March number of *Poultry Monthly*, Albany, N. Y., is a White Minorca special. The *Monthly*, under Editor Valentine's charge, is improving with each issue. Each issue contains more practical matter to the square inch than the average poultry publication.

The *American Poultry Advocate*, Syracuse, N. Y., is very proud with its new dress and well it can be. This journal is having wonderful success without making a big howl about it. The only objection we ever had to this journal is that Editor DePuy never writes an editorial. We believe he has the ability to do so, but he just simply won't do it.

There seems to be some doubt if the term "thoroughbred" is rightly applied

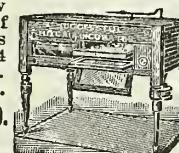
Why Fuss with Hens

When you can get an Incubator and Brooder that works as satisfactorily as the

"SUCCESSFUL"

It runs its'f, and hatches every hatchable egg. Send 6c in stamps for our new book—the best catalogue of the year—and read what users of the "Successful" say; 154 pages; printed in 5 languages. Better send for it at once.

DES MOINES INCUBATOR CO.
Box 423, Des Moines, Iowa.



WHITE P. ROCK EGGS. Prize-winning, vigorous stock; great layers of large brown eggs. Nice red eyes. \$2.00 per setting; three settings \$5.00. J. J. LYDON, Fruean Place and Highland St., Dorchester, Mass.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS

500 LAYING HENS bred for eggs. Eggs from best matings (free range) \$1.00 per 15; \$4.00 per 100. W. M. VREELAND, Rocky Hill, N. J.

EGGS! EGGS! EGGS!

From fine birds of the best strains. Buff Rocks and Buff Wyandottes \$1.50 per 15. White Leghorn eggs \$1.00 per 15; \$4.00 per 100.

HENRY R. INGALLS, No. B, Nortonhill, N. Y.

MY WH. WYANDOTTES

averaged 95 eggs each in five months, December 1st to May. Won 3rd pullet, 3rd pen at Hartford show, 88 birds competing. Eggs \$1.50 per 15.

E. L. PRICKETT, Hazardville, Conn.

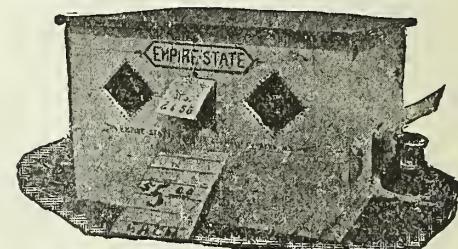
UTILITY AND BEAUTY

Pens of birds mated for best results. Barred P. Rocks, White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds, Black Minorcas. Give me a call; a trial will convince you the quality I am giving for the low price of \$1 per 15 eggs. E. W. Harris, Farm at 223 Lowell St., Reading, Mass. Formerly North Acton.

when placed alongside of poultry, the stand being taken that it has reference to horse flesh alone. We have yet to see a good argument in support of that theory. Thoroughbred is, pure and simple, *pure bred*, and just as applicable to one class of live stock as another. But, as *A FEW HENS* has repeatedly said, thoroughbred poultry is not necessarily, *Standard* bred, inasmuch as the latter are bred more to show room requirements. In other words, fowls can be thoroughbred and yet disqualified by the *Standard* of judging. Standard bred poultry naturally are thoroughbreds, inasmuch as they cannot be bred up to Standard requirements without being pure in blood.

Judging from the long list of poultry judges employed for the great Pan-American exhibition, those officials are

WHITE WYANDOTTES exclusively. C. F. A. Smith's Promoter strain; Duston and Hawkins strains. 75 to 90 per cent. fertile guaranteed. Best matings, 15, \$1.50; 100, \$6. Extra good, 100, \$5. W. E. SHOEMAKER, Laceyville, Pa.



The EMPIRE STATE BROODERS Still Lead

100 chick size, only \$5; 200 chick size, only \$10. Regular Steel Brooder Lamps, \$1.15 each; 1-2 doz \$6.50. Summer Queen Brooder Lamps, \$1 each; 1-2 doz. \$5.50. Reliance Brooder Lamps (our leaders), 75c. each; 1-2 doz. \$4.25. 11-2 in. Compressed Wicks for above Lamps, 1 doz, 25c. Tested Incubator Thermometers, 40c. each; 1-2 doz. \$2.25. Tested Brooder Thermometers, 30c. each; 1-2 doz. \$1.50. Lambert's Death to Lice, 10, 25, 50c. and \$1 pkgs. The celebrated Crosier Lice Killing Paint, simply mix with Kerosene Oil and spray over roosts, etc., per lb., 25c. or 5 lbs. \$1; 10 lbs. \$1.50. Lower rates yet to Agents. We are Jobbers for the Highest Grade Crushed Oyster Shells for poultry obtainable, free from all dirt and sea shells, 100 lbs. 50 cts.; 500 lbs. \$2.50; 1000 lbs. \$4.75; 2000 lbs. \$9. F. O. B. cars here. (Put up in 100 lb. sacks only). Pioneer Clover Meal for Winter Eggs, 50-lb. sack, \$1; 100-lb. sack, \$2. Bowker's Egg-Lime Grit (best made) 100 lbs. 50c. Swift's Lowell Bone and Meat Meal, 100 lbs. \$2.25. Cracked Bone or Bone Meal, 500 lbs. \$12. Beef Scraps, 500 lbs. \$12. We sell the new \$10 Blizzard Bone Cutter for only \$7. Send 2-cent stamp for our new Catalogue.

Circulars free.

EMPIRE STATE BROODER CO.,
Box B2, Halls Corners, N. Y.

Wh. Wyandottes

Bred and Selected for
GOOD LAYERS OF BROWN EGGS
and Prime Market Fowls.

EGGS \$1.00 PER 13; \$4.00 PER 100.
J. T. ANGELL, Pine Plains, N. Y.

A LIVING from Two Acres and *A Few Hens* is no dream, but can be made with my **UTILITY-BRED WHITE WYANDOTTES EGGS!** Single sitting, \$1.25. 2 or more sittings at \$1.50. Fertility guaranteed. Illustrated circular free.

ROUND TOP POULTRY YARDS,
C. P. BYINGTON, M. D., Proprietor, Cairo, N. Y.

B. L. MINORCAS

EXCLUSIVELY.

Single Comb Black Minorcas, standard bred 11 years for heavy layers of large white eggs. Also as exhibition birds they win. They are the celebrated Pitt strain. At Boston, 1901, birds bred, owned and exhibited by myself, won 2nd cock, 3rd hen, 5th cockerel, 1st pullet, 1st pen. Special on pen. Third white eggs. Fine breeding hens, pullets, cockerels, \$2 each. Eggs for hatching, \$2 per 15; \$10 per 100. From prize winners, \$5 per 15. Mrs. Geo. E. MONROE, Box B, Dryden, N. Y. Member Am. B. Minorca Club.

going to have a jolly good time. Almost every judge in the country is on the list, so that all fanciers ought to be satisfied. In fact, this fine display of America's foremost and best looking judges should prove quite a winning card, and would be still more attractive if the management would get up a vote among the visitors to ascertain which one proves to be the most attractive. This item is written in pure jealousy—it grieves us that we are not a poultry judge!

[TURKEY CULTURE.—Continued.]

Emma Clearwaters says she lets hen turkeys sit for 17 days and then transfers the eggs to an incubator or to hens. She finds that hen mothers are more satisfactory than turkeys.

J. F. Crangle says a pasture is a good place for poult. Free range gives the best turkeys. Teach them to come home to feed at a particular place. He says they never lose over ten per cent. of the poult, these mostly by foxes and hawks. He believes that more money can be made in turkeys than in any other branch of poultry for farmers.

"I do not wonder that there are so many failures made in preparing turkeys for market when we take into consideration the course so many breeders take in fattening their birds," says George Wolf, in *Farm-Poultry*. "I have frequently seen flocks of turkeys penned up in a building for the purpose of fattening for market, and it was a failure every time. This is no more than should be expected, for turkeys are of a wild nature, and as soon as they are cooped they begin quarreling, chasing one another about and constantly worrying for freedom. They soon tire of their food, grow thin and will, when killing time comes, weigh less than when first cooped with the expectation of fattening them."

"If I had a healthy, vigorous lot of turkeys that I wanted to prepare for market," says George Wolf, in *Farm-Poultry*, "I would give them absolute freedom and all the clean water they would drink. The fattening process would continue through weeks and at no time would I give them quite all they would eat, for as sure as you overfeed you will begin to notice sick birds in the flock. I would feed corn of last season's crop, and mash should be cold, fed in a long trough that is kept perfectly clean, and grit of some kind should be placed where they could always get it. My object in making them pick the corn from the cob is to give them exercise and because they will not roam so far from home if kept busy for an hour or so picking corn."

Ducks and Ducklings.

When the Duck Gets Down to Business She Lays her Eggs and then Quits for the Rest of the Season—Surely the Duck is a Philosopher.

Ducks have very few diseases.

Cramps occur generally from cold water. Overfat ducks are easy prey to apoplexy.

A cold and wet duckling is apt to go into spasms.

Leg weakness in ducklings is caused by damp quarters at night.

Cold and wet, overfeeding and lice, are the troubles of ducklings.

In feeding ducks cabbage, Waldo F. Brown says lie holds the plant in his left hand, head downward, and slashes it in slices with a corn cutter. He says he can cut a head fine in less time than it takes to write this sentence. Unmerchantable heads, those that burst, and loose heads, are just as good for the poultry as any, and if cabbage is grown for market there will be enough of these to feed a large number of fowls.

A writer in *Rural New-Yorker* thus gives the Muscovy duck a "black eye:" "It is said that everything is good in its place, and it is probably true, but I have never found the place for Muscovy ducks. In the first place they are a nuisance, as they can fly nearly equal to a wild duck and into every

kind of mischief they can find, taking their bath in the watering trough intended for horses and cows to drink from, chase the other poultry in a way to suit themselves, and occasionally kill a few young chickens for a change. They are the poorest layers of any of our domestic ducks that I know anything about, usually laying but a single clutch of eggs before wanting to sit, though I believe they usually hatch well and rear a good share of their broods, usually rearing a second brood during the season, but this appears like a doubtful advantage, as it is increasing the nuisance. There are a comparatively few markets where they can be sold to advantage, selling a few cts. per lb. lower than other ducks and some dealers won't handle them at all, although when well fed and well cooked (the only way I should want them about my place) they are apparently equal to other kinds of ducks."

R. I. REDS R. and S. Comb. Hens bred for business mated to unrelated vigorous males, \$1 per sitting. C. A. OWEN, Stoneham, Mass.



Fidelity Foods

BRING BIG RETURNS



Because they are adapted to a special purpose.

Fidelity Food for Young Chicks is a combination of the best and seeds with all hurtful portions eliminated. It is the safest and most nourishing food for chicks just out of the shell. Fed dry. Used by leading fanciers. 25 lbs., \$1.25; 50 lbs., \$2.00; in bbls., \$3.50 per 100 lbs.

Fidelity Food for Fowls has proved itself to be the best food for maximum egg production and for maintaining birds in the highest condition. A perfectly "balanced" ration for pullets and laying hens. Has highest endorsement. 25 lbs., \$1.25; 50 lbs., \$2.00; in bbls., \$3.50 per 100 lbs.

Fidelity Food for Fattening. Choice meals blended in proper proportion to be most relished by fowls and to produce the most rapid fattening, at the same time giving a fine and delicate flavor. Fowls fattened on Fidelity Food always top the market. Circulars free. Sold in barrels of 200 lbs., at \$5.00 per barrel.

PINELAND INCUBATOR AND BROODER CO.,
Box E, Jamesburg, New Jersey.



FOUR Poultry Papers For \$1.25.

Your Own Choice of TWO of Them.

FARM-POULTRY, semi-monthly.
A FEW HENS, monthly,

Price, \$1.00
Price, .25

YOUR CHOICE OF
ANY OTHER TWO

50 Ct.

POULTRY PAPERS
IN THE U. S., \$1.00.

All sent to one address, one year, for the small sum of \$1.25, cash in advance, which is the price of *Farm-Poultry* and *A Few Hens* alone.

YOU SAVE \$1.00 COLD CASH.

Send all orders to us, with cash, stamps or money orders. Do not send checks unless you add 10 cts. for exchange. No changes allowed after order is entered. Postage added in town where paper published.

FARM-POULTRY PUB. CO., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass.

Questions Briefly Answered.

Condensed Replies to the Many Inquiries Received at This Office.

FOOD AND FEEDING.

C. E. B.: The principal reason why burnt wheat should not be fed poultry is on account of the nutrient being pretty well lost. Sound wheat at double the price is cheap as burnt wheat, from the fact that there is double the amount of nutrient in it.

W. H. K.: The sentence "A pound of green cut bone to 16 hens two or three times *per day*," was a typographical error. It should have been "per week."

C. H. P.: For the first ten days we feed our little chicks F. P. C. Chick Manna, which can be secured from almost any poultry supply dealer in the cities or large towns. After that we gradually wean them over to a mash made of equal parts of bran, cornmeal, sifted ground oats, meat meal and clover meal. We also add dry bread crumbs to the mash when we have it. Wheat is also given them once a day, and as they grow older, say at one month of age, we alternate the wheat feed with cracked corn.

E. J. T.: We never fed pumpkins to our fowls, so cannot say what effect they would have.

Mrs. W. S.: It is hard to say if fifteen pounds of feed would be sufficient for 100 hens or not. If under that quantity the hens are laying well, we should think the amount about right. We feed the following quantities: In the morning a handful of grain is given for every three hens; noon, a large iron spoonful of mash is given to every two hens; night, a full handful of grain is given to each hen. As under that amount our hens are keeping in good condition and laying, we believe the quantity about right.

A. E. C. L.: When a fowl or chick is allowed more feed than it will eat up clean in about 15 to 30 minutes, it is apt to become overfed, from the fact that it picks and eats more from fashion than real necessity. After the hunger is satisfied—which really means after an ample amount is taken for needed purposes—the surplus goes to fat and the fowl or chick gets into an unhealthy condition.

L. E. H.: We have had no experience in feeding fish nor in curing the same for poultry food. In fact, we should not advise its use where the eggs or fowls are sold for table use, as fish will taint the flavor.

C. F. B.: Yes, barley, whole or ground, is a good substitute for oats. For laying stock it is better to feed potatoes raw than cooked. Roots and vegetables need not be fed when there is an abundance of other green food. Beets or potatoes, run through a root cutter are relished by the fowls.

T. F.: Of all the grains rye is not only the least valuable for poultry feeding, but the fowls tire of it very quickly. Even granting that it would contain the same value as wheat, the fact that the fowls do not like it would be a sufficient reason for not feeding it. We have experimented considerably with this grain.

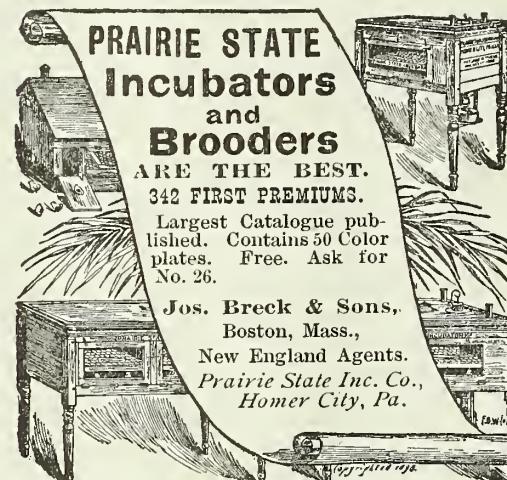
E. H. N.: Corn (ground cob and all), ground oats, clover meal and Animal Meal would make a very good mash for laying stock. With the exception of the animal meal, we should use equal parts of each by measurement. Of the animal meal we should give about one-twelfth the quantity.

EGGS AND EGG FARMING.

L. B. W.: No, Brahmias, as a breed, will not lay as many eggs as Leghorns, but they will do better Winter laying.

E. S.: The reason your fowls are not laying better is that they are out of condition. From the description you give, we believe it is on account of some form of colds that they have contracted. Put about a quarter teaspoonful of acouite in their drinking water (one gallon of water) daily, for about a week, and you may get them in better condition for laying. In the mash daily for several weeks, use Sheridan's Condition Powder.

J. B. M.: The only way we know of to determine which hen is laying and which is not, is by the use of trap nests.



BARRED P. ROCK Eggs for sale \$1 per setting. Bradley Bros. and Palmer strain. Won first and special at Torrington. Also cockerels for sale. C. F. BOURGEOIS, Cromwell, Conn.

IDEAL BROODERS. Indoor, Outdoor, Sectional, \$5.00 up. Central heat. Positive supply of warmed fresh air under circular hover. IDEAL BROODER CO., East Mansfield, Mass.

DON'T QUARREL with your neighbor about your chickens or his. Use our Superior Poultry Netting and your troubles end. This netting is galvanized after it's made. 3 feet wide per roll, \$2.15. 4 " " " 2.95. Roll contains 150 6 " " " 4.35. Lineal ft. **POULTRY THE BEST.** NETTING MESH. SUTCLIFFE & CO., 226 W. Main Street, Louisville, Ky.

EGGS \$1 per sitting. White Wyandottes (Duston and Hunter strain). Barred Plymouth Rocks (Hawkins strain). RICHARD HILLIER, Jersey City, N. J.

RATS driven away alive forever. No traps; no poison. Our new discovery exterminates them like magic. They never come back. Price 10 cents. GALLATINN'S CO., York, Pa.

Crystal Spring Stock Farm, Burlington, Mass. R. I. Reds and White Wyandottes. Incubator eggs \$5 per 100. Mature stock for sale at all times. Special matings \$1.50 a setting.

LARGE BROWN EGGS and a lot of them from my Barred Plymouth Rocks and Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds. \$1 per 13. DR. C. E. WOODS, Lunenburg, Mass.

90 varieties choice Poultry, Eggs, Pigeons and the true Belgian Hares. All described in Colored Descriptive sixty-page Book and mailed for 10 cents, J. A. BERGEY, Telford, Pa.

MARKET POULTRY.

E. J. T.: For the average market, any of our American breeds are best adapted for selling alive.

*** DISEASES.

Mrs. W. S.: Where the houses and runs are kept clean and disinfected, the fowls kept free from lice, and a constant supply of grit so that the fowls can help themselves at will, there need be no fear of cholera.

*** BREEDS AND BREEDING.

M. A. B.: A. L. Merrill, Auburn, Me., is a reliable breeder of White Wonders.

C. E. S.: We have very little faith in the theories for determining the sex of eggs. The only rule that in any way seemed to come near the mark, was the one that very early hatches predominate in males and the late ones in females—but even that rule has at times failed with us.

A. E. B.: We cannot say what buff varieties were used in the make-up of the Buff Wyandottes or Buff Plymouth Rocks, excepting that R. G. Buffinton claims to have used the Rhode Island Reds liberally.

*** ARTIFICIAL INCUBATION.

C. F. B.: 75 per cent. of fertile eggs is a good hatch, and 75 per cent. is a good percentage for broiler age.

A. M. T.: Leg weakness in brooder chicks comes from overfeeding and dampness. Too much meat will also do it and so will a lack of exercise.

1891.

COBURN'S
Barred Plymouth Rocks

Are the Fancy and Utility kind.

They are noted for large size, fine yellow legs and beaks, deep blue even bearing and superior utility qualities. Choice Cockerels and Pullets for sale at right prices. Eggs for hatching from ten grand pens at \$3.00 per 15; \$5.00 per 30; \$10.00 per 75. Eggs for incubator \$6.00 per 100. Send for circular; also two two-cent stamps for egg record sheets. Six free with each order.

F. A. P. COBURN,
E-759 Stevens Street, Lowell, Mass.

200

nice vigorous **WHITE WYANDOTTES.** Best brown egg strain in America. Prices low. Also my entire stock Buff Wyandottes at half price. W. E. MACK, West Woodstock, Vt.

Vaughn's White Wyandottes

ARE BRED TO LAY.

Eggs guaranteed 75 per cent. fertile from best layers \$1 per 15; \$5 per 100. C. E. Vaughn, Lyons Hill Poultry Farm, Athol Centre, Mass. Photo circular free.

Eggs That Hatch.

Strong, vigorous, healthy chickens that grow rapidly, mature early and lay steadily through the Winter.

Eggs \$1.50 per 15.

Bred on practical lines. Standard points and egg records combined. Special prices on large orders.

WHITE WYANDOTTES.

A. F. PUTNEY, South Natick, Mass.

EASTMAN'S
Barred Plymouth Rocks

Have been selected for their quick growth and heavy laying qualities. Standard weight; brown eggs. White Wyandottes above Standard weight; brown eggs. Buff Cochins, the Utility kind. Eggs \$1.00 per setting. Write your wants.

C. F. EASTMAN, Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

Belated Odds and Ends.

Here are Some Odds and Ends That Came Too Late to be Classified, but Interesting Nevertheless.

C. F. Crowell, Peterboro, N. H.: "I find that about the best trees for shade in a hen yard are sour cherries. They grow faster and live longer than plum or peach, and there is always a market for the cherries."

Dr. David Wark, New York City: "I submit the following facts which might be of service to many of your readers: If one pound of North Carolina resin be melted with about three fluid ounces of oil, and the liquid applied warm to the underside of the roosts, red spiders and other vermin that attack roosting poultry will be caught and destroyed in the very adhesive compound, just as flies are caught on sticky paper."

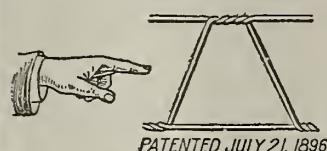
John Johnson, Reading, Pa.: "Perhaps the greatest mistake I made in my early days of poultry keeping was to be continually changing the bill of fare. Every time I read the account of a man's success, I would write him for his bill of fare. I kept changing and changing. One day my wife said to me, 'You don't give the food a chance,' and she was right. Now I have settled down to one plan, of course having a variety in it, and I am getting more eggs and have healthier stock."

George Smith, Altoona, Pa.: "I can see how your egg contest is going to benefit A FEW HENS' readers in many ways, especially in determining your best layers. Under your sole care these different varieties will receive the same food, have the same care and the same housing, and all being under the same climate, it will be pure and simple a race for supremacy. I do hope that breeders of all varieties will compete, so that we may know for a certainty just what to expect of a breed when we buy it. You deserve much credit for the grand work you are doing for the poultry fraternity."

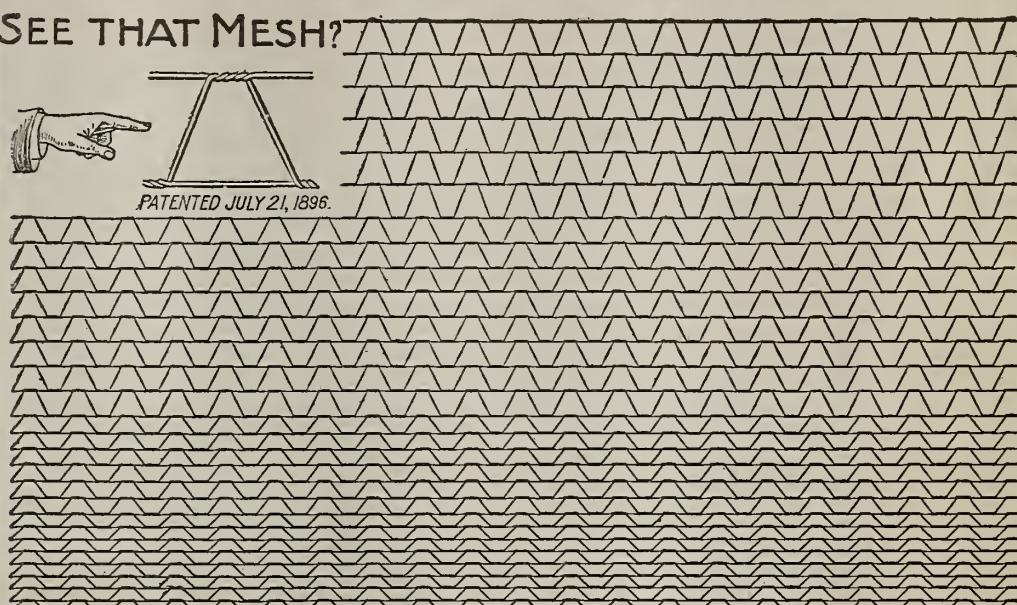
Edgar Warren, Wolfboro, N. H.: "Fertility has been phenomenal with me this year. My eggs in February showed a fertility that ordinarily I should not look for until June. I attribute the high fertility to my method of mating and feeding. This year I have doubled up my pens, taking out the partitions and putting 30 pullets in a flock instead of 15. The egg production is not quite so high as it is where there are fewer birds together, but the loss is offset in other ways. I use a male one week, then shut him up for a week's rest, putting in another. Then return to male No. 1. I have noticed that cocks have their favorites, and where only one male is used some of the females do not get any attention, so their eggs are not fertile. But where two males are used and alternated, all are served. I feed for fertility, as described in my book '200 Eggs a Year Per Hen.' If my theory of sex is correct, this mating will give me an excess of cockerels, but I prefer that to low percentage of fertility."

Quality, Strength, Service, Economy.

SEE THAT MESH?



PATENTED JULY 21, 1896.



M. M. S. POULTRY FENCING

Is so superior in every desirable respect to all others that every Poultry Keeper will use it exclusively as soon as he learns its real value.

IT DOES AWAY ENTIRELY

With the troublesome, expensive and unnecessary top and bottom rails; requires posts no closer to each other than one rod, and will save you 50 per cent on cost of completed fence. Over 14,000,000 lineal feet of M. S. S. Fencing was manufactured in 1899.

M. M. S. POULTRY FENCING.

These Patents are owned and controlled by the De Kalb Fence Co., of De Kalb, Ills.



Every roll genuine M.M.S. Fencing will contain this trade mark in colors.

Pat. July 21, 1896. [Trade Mark.] Pat. July 6, 1897.

DON'T ORDER FENCING

Until you find out what we can do for you. If you want quality, strength, service and economy in your purchase, you will find every one of these features in the M. M. S. Fencing. You owe it to yourself to look up the merits of this brand of Fencing before buying any other.

Our Sales Increased

Over 100 per cent in 1900, and M. M. S. has given absolute satisfaction in every instance. Then consult your best interests by obtaining full and complete information. For illustrative descriptive circulars, lists of agents, terms, freight rates, etc., simply drop a postal to

JAMES S. CASE, Colchester, Conn.

SELLING AGENT FOR STATES EAST OF OHIO.

Notes in Passing.

News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.

Good fowls deserve good care.

Depriving a hen of grit material, says *Farm and Home*, is like pulling a cow's teeth.

We sift dry sifted coal ashes over the dropping boards and the floors of the smaller coops.

Burr Knapp says overcrowding, overfeeding and under-exercise are three common causes of poultry failure.

Farm and Home says it is better hens should exercise themselves dusting than exercise you putting on insect powder.

Large farms too often breed slovenly farming, says *Farm and Home*. That sentence can also be well applied to poultry farming.

Did you ever have one little hen louse on you, and think you had a hundred? asks *Farm Journal*. If so, you know what a hen endures. Begin early to fight the pests.

Prof. Thomas Shaw, of the University of Minnesota, says a first cross is excellent for vigor, quick maturity and laying qualities. Beyond that one gets confusion and unsalableness.

Outdoor life and happiness will do wonders to keep man young. That's why so many farmers reach the age limit, says *Farm and Home*. Ditto poultry farmers; we are all young looking.

Don't be afraid to be called a poultry crauk, says *Baltimore Sun*. When you have advanced to that stage in the business it is pretty sure indication your success is becoming noticeable.

"A good hen is like money at interest," says *Farm and Home*; "she works Sundays, holidays and rainy weather." And we might add that a good poultryman is equally engaged on all days and conditions of weather.

Systemize your work; keep strict account of both debit and credit. Give poultry keeping the same close attention you bestow on your business affairs. There is a good chance for business sense and system in conducting a poultry plant as in any other pursuit, says *Golden Egg*.

Contrary to general belief, it has been found in a test by the West Virginia Experiment Station that hens do better and lay more eggs in poultry houses with natural earth floors than with board floors. The experiments were continued during two years, and the earth floors were on a level with the outside and of hard, wet clay ground. A raised gravel floor would undoubtedly have given even better results. The unfloored pens were warmer.

The *American Agriculturist* says there are scores of people who are making a good, comfortable living keeping 200 or 300 hens, producing eggs for market, raising the pullets each year and dressing and selling the cockerels. It does not require much capital for a start, but one should have enough to get through the Summer and Fall in easy circumstances, and take into consideration that 600 or 700 chickens

will eat a good many dollars' worth of grain while growing.

J. L. Irwin says nothing will degenerate into scrub stock so quickly as a flock of neglected chickens. The furnishing of pure bred males each year may do much, yet it will not keep up the flock. There must be a selection of hens as well. Our plan is to select from 9 to 15 of our best hens, mate them with a good cock and from January or early February keep them penned away from the rest of the chickens. These furnish the eggs for our next hatching. In this way we get the advantage of penned fowls and also the free range. "Does your neighbor's cat annoy you by coming around your chicken yard?" writes Edgar Warren to A FEW HENS. "I will tell you how to get rid of her without doing any injury to the animal or getting your neighbors' mad. Get a package of torpedoes, such as you used to buy when a boy, and every time the cat comes around explode one under her tail. She will be off like a shot. Two or three such experiences will convince her that she had better keep away. You have got rid of the cat and kept on good terms with your neighbor at the same time."

COLBY'S ROCKS ARE BLUE BARRED.

HIGHEST AWARDS IN WORLD'S LARGEST SHOWS given to birds I bred.

They are bred to lay, and in quality and price suit hen cranks of all degrees.

I guarantee all stock to be as represented or money back at once. COCKERELS bred from my Amesbury winners, scoring 94 to 95 1-2, \$5.00 each.

WHITE WYANDOTTES scoring 90 and over, lay brown incubator eggs, \$5.00 per 100.

F. E. COLBY, Bow Mills, N. H.

BURDICK'S BIRDS Buff Wyandottes

Are Superior Winter Layers and make the Finest Broilers.

Eggs \$1.50 per 15; \$2.50 per 30. Incubator eggs \$4 per 100. Also fine Barred P. Rocks and White Leghorns. Circular free.

FRANK C. BURDICK, Rockville, R. I.

BUFFINTON'S BUFFS.

Price of Eggs for 1901 from No. 1 Stock:

Buff Ducks, the only specimens in America, \$5 for 12; Buff Plymouth Rocks, Buff Wyandottes, Buff Leghorns, Rose, Pea and Single Comb R. I. Reds, Partridge Wyandottes and Partridge Plymouth Rocks, \$2 for 13; \$5 for 40. Buff Cochins and Barred P. Rocks, \$1.25 for 13; \$3 for 40. From No. 2 yards of Rose, Pea and Single Comb R. I. Reds, Buff Wyandottes, Buff P. Rocks and Buff Leghorns, \$1.25 for 13; \$3 for 40; \$6 for 100. Send for circular.

Rowland G. Buffinton, Box 577, Fall River, Mass.

Rose Comb Brown Leghorns

LINE-BRED. PROLIFIC LAYERS. Eggs, one setting, \$1.00; 50 eggs, \$3.50; 100 eggs, \$6. C. H. CLARK, Box 1, Cobalt, Conn.

MAKE YOUR HENS LAY. BEEF SCRAPS

LAKESIDE POULTRY YARDS, Westville, N. J.

Breeders of Barred Rocks, White Rocks, White Wyandottes, White Leghorns, White Cochins, Bantams, Pit Games and

PEDIGREED BELGIAN HARES.

R. I. REDS. Prize stock eggs \$1 and \$1.50 per 15; \$5 per 100. J. E. Bean, Davisville, N. H.

COCKERELS.

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

\$3.00 and \$4.00 Each.

Dark, Medium and Light Color. Strong, vigorous birds from a good brown egg-laying strain.

ORDER DIRECT FROM THIS AD.
Satisfaction guaranteed.

C. H. LATHAM, Box H, Lancaster, Mass.

We Guarantee 75 PER CENT FERTILE.

WHITE WYANDOTTES. Heavy layers; brown eggs. Short, blocky, vigorous. Eggs \$1.50 per 13; \$4.00 per 50; \$7.00 per 100.

PEKIN DUCKS. Extra large, short necks, deep keels, great layers. Eggs after April 1, \$1.00 per 11; \$3.00 per 50; \$5.00 per 100. Good breeders either variety \$2.00. Red Belgian Hares, pedigree and non-pedigree \$1.00 up. Green Cut Clover, Poultry Supplies, Circulars and Samples.

W. R. CURTISS & CO., (2) Ransomville, N. Y.

WINTER LAYERS.

Barred Rocks, W. Wyandottes.

Laid 5,220 eggs in January; 5,414 in February. 150 R. Pulletts laid 2,331 eggs in January; 2,416 in February. Are you looking for stock like this? \$2 per setting; three settings \$5. Stock vigorous and healthy.

G. A. GOODWIN, (successor to A. F. Hunter), South Natick, Mass.

EGGS from Shull's White Wyandottes, White and Buff Leghorns, White and Barred Rocks. Practically mated. None better. \$3 a sitting. Belgian Hares, fine Does ready, \$3. Black Does, five months, \$1. Cordova, Thadious, Shafter, Prince and other good Buck at Warren.

R. R. SHULL, Greensboro, Md.

WHITE WYANDOTTES

that lay eggs. Average record 191 eggs each. Also **PEKIN DUCKS.** The business kind. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$3 per 50; \$5 per 100. Guaranteed 75 to 90 per cent. fertile. E. O. Schaaf, Box 121, Woodbury, N. J.

FOR SALE. A few Cockerels, E. B. BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS for \$2.00 and upwards. Eggs from same strain. Also H. E. Benedict strain R. C. B. Leghorns, 20 eggs for \$1.00. RIVERSIDE POULTRY FARM, Box 81, Ausable Forks, N. Y.

NO MATTER WHAT TRAP NEST YOU USE

You need Ideal Monthly Record Sheets. Like Ideal Nests they save time and money. 25 cts. per dozen (25 hens 1 year), \$1.50 per 100. Sample free. F. O. Wellecome, Yarmouth, Me.

SINGLE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS

Bred for heavy laying by F. L. DuBOIS, Box 45, Loyd, N. Y., prop. Mountain View Poultry Farms. I select and mate up my breeding pens every fall, from stock proving greatest layers the past year. Have my farms fenced so all have free range. No yarded fowls for me. Eggs yet this season \$1 per 15.

Winner at Madison Square Show, 1901. Second R. C. R. I. Red Pullet.

Rose Comb R. I. Reds

Eggs for hatching from thoroughbred and good laying stock, \$1.50 per 15 eggs.

EGBERT R. REID, Englewood, N. J.

MAKING HENS LAY.

BEEF SCRAPS \$2.00 per 100 lbs.

LAKESIDE POULTRY YARDS, Westville, N. J.

Breeders of Barred Rocks, White Rocks, White Wyandottes, White Leghorns, White Cochins, Bantams, Pit Games and

PEDIGREED BELGIAN HARES.

Our Market Report.

An Accurate Account of the Highest, Lowest and Average Prices for the Best Market Stock, Paid During the Month of February—Goods Not up to the Standard Received Proportionately Less.

NEW YORK.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.
Fresh eggs.....	26	21	23 1-2
Broilers, dressed	35	30	32 1-2
Fowls, dressed.....	10 1-2	9 1-2	10
Ducks, dressed.....	13	13	13
Spring Turkeys, dressed ..	12	10	11
Turkey hens, dressed ..	10	9	9 1-2
Turkey toms, dressed ..	9	8	8 1-2
Old Roosters, dressed.....	5 1-2	5	5 1-4
Geese, dressed.....	10	8	9
Fowls, live.....	11	9 1-2	10 3-4
Chickens, live.....	9	7	8
Roosters, live.....	6	4	5
Turkeys, live.....	9	7	8
Ducks, live, pair.....	.90	.70	.80
Geese, live, pair.....	\$1.00	\$1.37	\$1.18 1-2

PHILADELPHIA.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.
Fresh Eggs.....	22	16 1-2	19 1-4
Hens, live.....	10 1-2	10	10 1-4
Hens, dressed	10	9 1-2	9 3-4
Old Roosters, live.....	7	7	7
Old Roosters, dressed	6 1-2	6	6 1-4
Spring Chickens, live	10	8	9
Spring Chickens, dressed ..	12	11	11 1-2
Nearby broilers.....	24	18	21
Fancy roasting Chickens..	16	15	15 1-2

BOSTON.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.
Eggs, nearby and Cape	27	23	25
Chickens, dressed.....	15	14	14 1-2
Fowls, dressed	12	12	12
Roosters, dressed.....	6	6	6
Ducks, dressed	12	12	12
Turkeys, old.....	10	8	9
Turkeys, Spring.....	12	9	10 1-2
Spring Chickens, live.....	9 1-2	8	8 3-4

CHICAGO.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.
Eggs, fresh.....	19	16	17 1-2
Chickens, hens, scalded.....	9	8 1-2	8 3-4
Chickens, hens, alive.....	10 1-2	8	9 1-4
Spring Chickens, live.....	8	8	8
Roosters, live.....	5	5	5
Ducks, live, old.....	9 1-2	9	9 1-4
Ducks, Spring, dressed.....	10 1-2	10	10 1-4
Geese, live, per dozen..	\$8.50	\$6.00	\$7.25
Turkey hens, dressed.....	9 1-2	9	9 1-4
Turkey hens, live.....	7	7	7
Turkey gobblers, dressed..	8	6	7
Turkey gobblers, live.....	7	6	6 1-2

EGGS from thoroughbred White Wyandottes, S. C. White Leghorns, \$1.00 per 13. J. M. PRIGG, R. D. No. 11. Washington, Pa.

"Easy Poultry Keeping," etc., by State Institute Lecturer, 25c. Mr. Boyer says in Jan. No., it's "a mass of pointers." Myra V. Norys, 308a, Westfield, N. J.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS exclusively. Incubator eggs \$3 per 100. C. A. HALL, Oak Hill, Greene Co., N. Y.

RECORD this year on S. C. Rhode Island Red, Black Minorcas, 21 Firsts, 4 Specials, 18 Second Premiums. Eggs from extra choice mating \$3.00 per 15. Choice mating \$2.00 per 15. Mating for utility \$1.00 per 15. BAY STATE POULTRY YARDS, Worcester, Mass.

EGGS from leading varieties of thoroughbred poultry bred for standard points, utility and from heavy layers. Eggs \$1.00 per sitting. Catalogue free. H. D. ROTH, Franconia, Pa.

JAMES M. SMITH, Perkiomenville, Pa. Breeder of all Leading Varieties of poultry. Eggs for Hatching, \$1.00 per 15; \$2.10 per 40; \$3.00 per 60. Catalogue free.

COLERAIN FARM. QUALITY IS HIGH. Brown egg White Wyandottes, S. C. W. Leghorns. Finest white eggs. Standard bred bread winners. Few cockerels and pullets at \$1 and \$2. Eggs \$1.50 sitting. B. L. SCHMIED, Box 21, Groesbeck, Ohio.

EGGS, S. C. Wh. Leghorns and Barred P. Rocks, \$1 per 13; \$4, 100. Frank B. Ansley, Cheshire, Conn.

R. I. Red, W. Wyandotte, B. Langshan. Eggs \$1 for 13. C. S. Buchan, Andover, Mass.

WANTED. Sectional indoor brooder, Cyph. or P. State preferred. E. F. Miller, Box 764, Seymour, Ind.

12 White Rock pullets for sale or exchange for Light Brahmans. Box 265, Wakefield, R. I.

S. C. Br. Leghorns, Corn. Ind. Games. Eggs \$1 set. Thoroughbred st'k. Herbert Clarke, Statesville, N.C.

197 EGG STRAIN Hartnest L. Brahmans direct. C'k's with pedigree reasonable. Eggs from choice matings \$1.25 pr 15. Wm. A. Penfield, Waterville, N.Y.

ROSE Comb White and R. C. B. Leghorns. Eggs 75 cents per 15. Some fine cockerels for sale. L. PRATT, Maryland, N. Y.

GREAT MONEY MAKERS. White P. Rocks, Barred P. Rocks, Buff Leghorns and White Face Black Spanish. Eggs \$1.00 per 13. C. G. FRENCH, North Norway, Me.

PURE BRED S. C. W. Leghorn pullets, 75 cents each. Extra layers. Eggs \$1 per 15. E. K. BLAKE, Nicholville, N. Y.

White Wyandottes

I have a pen of 14 Duston hens and pullets mated to two elegant Wh. Duston cockerels. \$100 would not buy this pen. Book your orders for eggs now. \$2 per 15; \$5 per 50; \$9 per 100. Hawkins Barred Plymouth Rocks \$1.50 per 15; \$4 per 50; \$7 per 100. G. D. ELMER, Erving, Mass.

UTILITY WYANDOTTES.

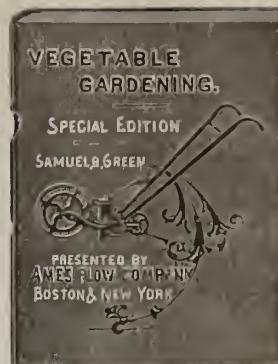
WHITES AND BUFFS. Layers of brown eggs. Eggs \$1.50 per 15. Wm. C. MacMullin, Box 134, Paulsboro, Glo. Co., N.J.

ROHDE ISLAND REDS

Eggs and Young Chicks. \$1.00 per 13; \$5.00 per 100. Chicks to order. Send for circular. W. F. DAVEY, Reading, Mass.

BARRED ROCKS.

A few fine cockerels left and will sell quick at \$2.00 per head. Also eggs for hatching from good healthy prize-winning stock, \$1.00 per 13. Give me a trial. FRANK ROBESON, Port Murray, N. J.



"VEGETABLE GARDENING" FREE.

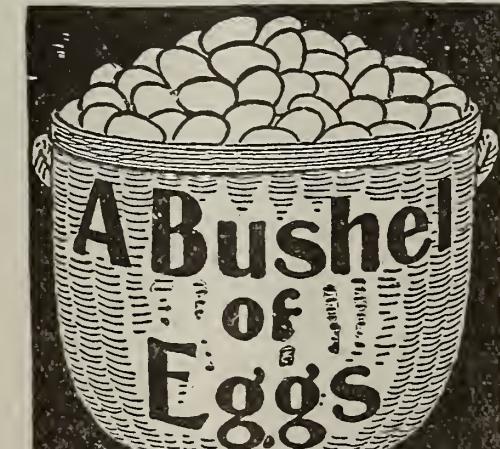
No book ever published on Gardening has proved to be more popular nor of more practical value than "Vegetable Gardening," written by Prof. S. B. Green, of the University of Minnesota. It is now used as a text book in the Minnesota School of Agriculture; the North Dakota Agricultural College; the South Dakota Agricultural College; the Iowa Agricultural College; the Virginia Agricultural College; the Massachusetts Agricultural College and in the Illinois and Washington State Agricultural Colleges. We have received a special edition of this book, issued for the Ames Plow Company, which contains 240 pages, more than 120 illustrations and treats of the cultivation of every variety of vegetables grown in America. While the regular price of the book is \$1.25 (and it is well worth it) the Ames Plow Company is offering it free to every purchaser of a Matthews New Universal Seeder in any of its various styles. These seeders are unsurpassed by any implement used by the gardener and truck grower, being adapted to all classes of work, both seeding and cultivation. They are used by Prof. Green in his field tests. We trust that our readers will avail themselves of this opportunity to secure free so valuable a book, by so capable an authority. Look up the advertisement in another column, and write them today, mentioning this paper.

IMPORTED English Cochin stock. A few settings, 75 cts.; beauties. Other breeds. Book orders at once. Circulars. Mention A Few Hens, JOHNSON BROTHERS, Woodsford, Maine.

Eaton's White Wyandottes

are good Winter layers and prime market poultry. Eggs from same pens I hatch from \$1.00 per 13; \$2.00 per 30. E. L. EATON, Millington, Mass.

Feed for Eggs.



In the fall and winter is worth a barrel in hot weather. There's a way that never fails to fetch eggs when they're wanted, and that is to feed, once a day, in a warm mash

Sheridan's CONDITION Powder

It helps the older hens, makes pullets early layers, makes glossy plumage on prize winners. If you can't get it we send one package, 25 cts.; five, \$1. 2-lb. can, \$1.20; six for \$5. Ex. paid. Sample poultry paper free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., BOSTON, MASS.

The following method of feeding is based upon experience:—Every morning feed early a warm mash, made as directed below. Every noon feed whole oats, barley or buckwheat. Every night feed whole wheat—corn when very cold. The cooked mash should be made as follows:—Mix thoroughly (while dry), in a barrel or box, equal parts of corn meal, shorts, wheat middlings and ground oats. Take two quarts of this dry mixture, add to it one quart of well cooked vegetables, such as potatoes, turnips, beets, carrots, table and kitchen scraps; add a little salt for seasoning. To the whole, in a pail, add three heaping teaspoonsfuls of SHERIDAN'S CONDITION POWDER; then with boiling hot water mix the whole into a mash until the dry meal is well scalded. Do not have it sloppy, but a crumbly, well cooked mash. Feed while the mash is warm. The above is enough for 30 to 40 hens, unless of large Asiatic breeds.

Layers that Win.

STAY WHITE WYANDOTTES; R. I. REDS that are RED. Pedigree bred for heavy laying of brown eggs by trap nests. My Wyandottes won 1st, 3d, pens; 1st, 2d, 3d, cocks; 2d, 3d, 4th, hens; 1st, 2d, 3d, eggs; 9 Specials. My Reds won 2d, pen, 2d, eggs and Specials, at 2 Shows, Manchester, N. H., 1900. Scored 92 to 95 each. Stock and eggs from high-scoring heavy layers. Brown eggs, 13, \$1.50; 30, \$2.50; 50, \$4; 100, \$7. Established 1887.

C. E. DAVIS, Warner, N. H.

People We Know.

Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.

Woodward M. Poffenberger, Bakersville, Md., a regular advertiser in A FEW HENS, has taken a partner into business, the junior being Mrs. Poffenberger (Mertie W.) and in the future the sign will read W. M. & M. W. Poffenberger.

The Otter Creek Poultry Farm, Watertown, N. Y., are running a contract advertisement in A FEW HENS, and it is worth investigating. We believe our readers will be well satisfied with their dealings with this firm.

The 57th annual catalogue of I. K. Felch & Son, Natick, Mass., has been received. It is the handsomest and best arranged of any we have seen this year and entirely in keeping with the choice stock this firm sends out.

Attention is called to the advertisement of F. W. Thorne, Livingstonville, N. Y. By some unaccountable oversight, in the February issue Mr. Thorne's address was made to read: "F. W. Horne, Livingstonville, N. J.," instead as above.

Franklin Logan, Wellesley Hills, Mass., writes: "I am using the Ideal trap nests in my breeding pens, and they are giving satisfaction. I did not think that the hens would learn to use them but they took to them readily, and I have not found an egg outside of the nests since they were put in, although formerly, with open nest boxes, a large number preferred to make their nests in the litter."

GROW RICH MR. FARMER.

Every farmer is ambitious to put aside a snug sum for the later years. Well, that is just right, but why not grow rich double quick? You can do it. How? By planting a plenty of John A. Salzer Seed Company's La Crosse, Wisconsin grown seeds. You see Salzer breeds his seeds up to big yields, as the farmer breeds his cattle to their highest point of merit. The result is, Salzer's seeds sprout, grow and produce enormously. We know of many a farmer whose granaries had to be built larger and whose barns needed additions put on, on account of sowing Salzer's seeds; that's good prosperous news.

PINELAND INCUBATORS.

The day of simplicity in incubator construction has arrived. Poultrymen will no longer "stand for" cumbersome machines with all the intricacies of a fine watch. They want an incubator simple and easy to run at the same time sure in results. This fact has been kept in mind by the manufacturers of the Pineland Incubators (don't forget the name) and Brooders. The result is that they have produced a hatcher for which they can claim:

The greatest simplicity of operation.

The greatest economy of fuel.

The most practical, sensitive and simple regulator.

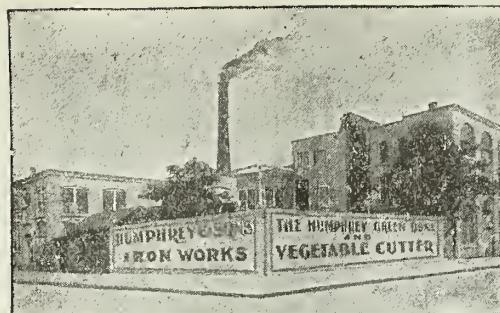
The most scientific system of ventilation.

The most durable construction.

They have in different parts of the country incubators in operation which have been in use for fifteen years—a showing which we doubt any other incubator can make. The Pineland Brooder is built along the same lines of simplicity and efficiency. Their 200-chick brooder, for example, gives ample room for 200 chicks without crowding. Every poultryman who has lost chicks from overcrowding (and a good big share of chick troubles are so caused) will appreciate this feature of the Pineland. The Pineland catalogue does not claim to be an encyclopedia of chicken lore, but it is a well written practical book, in which we know our readers will be interested. Ask about the "Fidelity Foods" made by these same people—put up in three forms, for chicks, for fowls and for fattening, each the very best of its kind for the purpose. Prices very reasonable.

EXCHANGE. Who will give a used incubator; ditto two Outdoor Brooders, for old Swiss or European stamps.

G. H. DAENIKER, Seewis, Switzerland,



AN EGG-MAKING FACTORY.

It is no longer the fashion to deride and belittle the poultry industry; people who keep their eyes open no longer turn up their noses when the "chicken business" is mentioned, but it is possible that even many persons interested in the business do not fully appreciate its extent. One indication of its importance is the number of men and the large factories devoted to turning out supplies for the poultry raiser. Our illustration shows the well equipped factory of Humphrey & Sons at Joliet, Ills., where the celebrated Humphrey Green Bone and Vegetable Cutter is made. It is one of the most complete foundries and machine shops in the West. Undoubtedly the great favor with which the Humphrey Cutter has been received is, to a great extent, due to the superior facilities this factory affords for its manufacture. Messrs. Humphrey put out their machine with a positive guarantee that it will cut more green bone in less time and with less labor and greater ease than any other bone cutter made; and we can assure our readers that this firm will make good everything they guarantee. There is no question of the value of cut green bone to the poultry raiser the whole year round; neither is there any question of the ability of the Humphrey Cutter, "the open hopper type," to cut it rapidly and easily. If you have not seen the Humphrey catalogue send for a copy (a new edition, by the way, has become necessary). It gives the opinion of many leading fanciers and commercial poultrymen on the feeding of green bone, and contains blanks for a year's poultry record. You'll be glad to get a copy, and they will be glad to send it to you. Address Humphrey & Sons, Joliet, Ills., and mention this paper.

BLACK MINORCAS, WHITE WYANDOTTES. Strong, vigorous stock, bred for egg producers. \$1.00 per 15; \$1.75 per 30. G. E. BELDING, East Creek, N. Y.

INCUBATOR EGGS
from pure bred White Wyandottes. \$3.00 per 100. SILAS DEAN, Oak Hill, N. Y.

I HAVE been a breeder of choice White Plymouth Rocks, low combs, for 14 years. Hatching eggs for sale, \$1.25 for 15; also Wh. Wyandotte eggs. W. H. WIGHT, 538 Washington St., Hudson, N. Y.

FOR SALE. One 300-egg Prairie State Incubator and a small size hot water Brooder Stove. J. J. SMITH, Oxford, Mass.

BUFF LEGHORNS (Arnold's). Buff to the tip of the tail. Eggs \$1.00 per 13. ERIC AURELIUS, Perry, Lake Co., Ohio.

Wh. Wyandottes

Bred for utility as well as layers of brown eggs. Eggs \$1.00 per setting. Maple View Poultry Yards, NATHAN WEST, Proprietor, Cobalt, Conn.

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ROSE COMB BROWN LEGHORNS

Eggs for hatching from strong, vigorous stock. Heavy laying strain. Price \$1.00 for 13; \$2.00 for 30; \$5.00 per 100. MRS. FRANK FITCH, Ellsworth, Ohio.

LINCOLN NATURAL BROODER The only natural brooder; hovers broods chicks; plenty of heat, moisture; fire and water proof. The coming brooder. Partner wanted. No. 40 Granite Street, Fall River, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTES and R. C. R. I. REDS.

Eggs and chickens that are right. HENRY B. SPENCER, Ayer, Mass.

HANAFORD'S Wachusett Strain - - WHITE - - WYANDOTTES.

Pullet records, 219 eggs per year, 125 five winter months, 50 eggs 53 consecutive days; 26 in November. Bred for Business and Beauty. Plumb bodies, white plumage, yellow legs. Eggs from seven choice matings of as rugged and vigorous stock as stands in New England today at \$1 per setting; \$2 for 30. Larger quantities at special prices. Correspondence solicited. Our Buff Wyandottes are the true Buff color. Large, vigorous, excellent layers and mothers. Eggs from two prize matings, \$1.50 per setting; \$2.50 for 30; \$6 for 100. Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds will lay more dollars' worth of eggs in a year than a Leghorn, and are rightly called the Leghorns of the American class, although much heavier. Bright, active hustlers, ready for business 365 days in the year. Must be tried to be fully appreciated. A few settings remain unsold for April and May delivery; order early. Prices same as for Buffs.

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A HAPPY FAMILY.

The Sure Hatch Incubator has been one of the surprises of recent years in the poultry world. Its inventor, M. M. Johnson, is a practical poultry raiser. In designing this incubator he was guided more by practical common sense than by an untried theory, and believed that it takes several things to make a perfect incubator; the material, the construction, and the principal of operation and management. As to material, the Sure Hatch is built of California red-wood, the only thing which stands continually the heat and moisture needed for perfect incubation without crocking, warping or pulling apart. It has copper tanks guaranteed for 20 years. The ventilation and application of moisture follow the natural method of the hen; the lamp is the famous hydro-safety with a water-jacket which prevents all danger of explosion or smoking; the wafer regulator is as certain and as positive as a thermometer. The Sure Hatch has three walls and two dead-air spaces, being one more wall and one more air-space than any other incubator—in short, from first to last there is not a point overlooked which will contribute to its success, durability and ease of operation. While the Sure Hatch has been in use for a number of years, it has been generally advertised for only four seasons, but in that short time the demand for the machine that "hatches sure" has so increased that a new factory became necessary, and last summer a complete plant was erected and equipped with all modern machinery, putting the company in position to manufacture at a lower cost than most of its competitors, and it gives this advantage to its customers. The record of the Sure Hatch at shows and fairs is something of which its makers are justly proud. Their list of first premiums is a long one and has been won strictly on the machine's merits. The same company make the celebrated Common Sense Folding Brooder, which meets the needs of poultrymen who haven't the time to teach chicks to climb a ladder. The guarantee under which the Sure Hatch is sold is one of the strongest that it is possible to give. One trial is all they ask—it must out-hatch other machines the first time, not after the season is nearly ended. The handsome catalogue profusely illustrated and containing a vast fund of poultry information, will be sent to any of our readers free. Ask for it. Address Sure Hatch Incubator Co., Clay Center, Neb., and mention this paper.

White Wyandottes, Buff Rocks, Anconas. Vigorous Standard bred, prolific laying strains. Selected matings. Eggs \$1.50, 13. ARTHUR SPILLER, Beverly, Mass.

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Standard bred for six years for heavy layers of large white eggs. Have won their share of premiums wherever shown. Eggs \$1.00 per 15. A. A. WHYLAND, Chatham, N. Y.

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Won second at Boston on eggs. Heavy laying strain. All high-scoring birds. \$1.50 per setting. Eggs from pedigree breeders at \$2. Satisfaction guaranteed. M. C. LOWELL, Amesbury, Mass.